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THE VISIT TO BELGIUM.

At first sight it is not at all clear why any political meaning should be attached to the visit of the English volunteers to Belgium. Belgian riflemen came to England and were entertained at Wimbledon, and what was there more natural than that English volunteers should be entertained, in return, at Brussels? At Brussels itself politics were naturally not touched upon—at least, not in a direct manner; though the obligation binding both France and England to maintain the independence of Belgium was vaguely alluded to more than once. In Paris, however, in spite of the fact that French as well as English riflemen had been invited to the great Brussels celebration, an immense deal has been said on the subject of the importance alleged to be attached by ourselves to this fraternisation of Englishmen with Belgians, and the more ridiculous of the French journals have even affected to regard it as a menace to France.

Nothing can be more absurd than to suppose that a journey of some thousand English volunteers to Brussels, where they seem to have occupied themselves partly with firing at targets and partly with drinking champagne, had any meaning whatever beyond the simple intention of accepting an invitation and of returning a visit. But some people *will* see in it more than at first strikes the naked eye. Prussia is annexing right and left; France is accused of wanting to possess herself of a certain amount of territory on the left bank of the Rhine, which, if the course of the river be followed, will soon lead her to Antwerp; and, between France and Prussia, it is diffi-



WILKIE COLLINS, ESQ.

cult to understand how the small Powers placed in their way can continue to exist.

Of the thousand British volunteers who have lately visited Brussels, we do not suppose that more than a very few entertained any ideas at all on the subject of a Continental war in which the existence of Belgium might possibly be endangered. But, unfortunately, the position of any little State that happens to be in the neighbourhood of Prussia may be considered perilous just now. M. Gosch, whose admirable work on Denmark and the claims of Prussia in reference to the provinces of Schleswig and Holstein, has often been noticed in these columns, told us, before the Dano-German war of 1864 began, that the true object of Prussia was to take all Holstein, all Schleswig, and as much more territory in Germany proper as she could manage to lay hold of. He further assured the English public that after the federal States of North Germany had been annexed, an attack would be made on Holland, and a certain portion of Dutch territory seized. In this again he showed foresight; for Count von Bismarck is already calling upon the Dutch Government to give its reasons for retaining the district and fortress of Luxembourg, which, in accordance with the arrangement determined in 1815, belongs partly to Holland and partly to Germany and the German Confederation. Here at once is the subject of a very good quarrel, though the question directly involved may not be of the highest importance. The worst of it is that, if the least thing be taken from Holland to-day, there is no reason why a good deal more should not be taken from Belgium to-



SCENE FROM "THE FROZEN DEEP," AT THE OLYMPIC THEATRE: RETURN OF WARDOUR AND ALDERSLEY.—SEE PAGE 279.

morrow. We were told that Schleswig would never be absolutely and definitely seized by Prussia; yet Schleswig now forms part of the Prussian monarchy. It was asserted, at a later period, that at least Holland was safe in its integrity; whereas, at this moment, a demand is on the point of being enforced for the cession of a portion of the territory belonging to the Dutch King.

Oddly enough, a small Power, when it finds itself on the point of being swallowed up, generally raises a cry of some kind. Holstein and Schleswig both uttered complaints; so did Luxembourg; and so, before long, our hospitable Belgium may feel called upon to do. A celebrated Dutch publicist—Mr. Vreede, the Professor of International Law of the Utrecht University—has recently published a very remarkable work on the obligations of England towards the Continent, and especially towards the minor States in the enjoyment of free constitutions, whose numbers are now constantly decreasing in Europe. The great fault of Mr. Vreede's work is that it proves too much. It shows clearly, for instance, that England possessed the right of opposing the important changes that have recently taken place in Germany, the German Confederation having been constituted under an Act whose maintenance was guaranteed by every Power in Europe. It may be said that these arguments amount practically to nothing, and that, whether England had or had not the right to enforce the observance of the treaties of 1815 in respect to the German Confederation, she was not absolutely bound to do so. What, however, Mr. Vreede above all insists upon is the fatal impolicy, from our own historical point of view, of leaving ourselves without a single ally on the Continent.

We can understand a professor of international law being a good deal shocked by many things that have recently taken place in Europe; and the fact that all the affairs of Europe have lately been conducted in a most lawless manner is no reason why we should shut our ears altogether to the voice of pure legality. Above all, for the sake of our own interests—which, it is admitted on all sides, ought on every occasion to be considered—we should make friends while friends are still to be made. It was said of Earl Russell that he left us “without a single friend on the Continent;” and, unfortunately, the saying was to a great extent true. It has hitherto been always held that our true allies are to be found among the small Powers; but these Powers, as an Imperial statesman recently declared, are afflicted with “a natural tendency to disappear,” and before long, if they alone are to be our allies, we may as well dispense with alliances altogether.

In the mean time, if we are not sure always to have allies, we may be quite certain never to want for enemies, and the case might arise in which even the friendship of Belgium would be of use of us. If Belgium should ever fall under the dominion of one of the strong military Powers of the Continent, the occupation of that country's sea-coast and ports would be nothing less than a signal for the invasion of England. Belgium, then, not to mention other reasons, is, from her geographical position, our natural ally; and the demonstrations of good-will that have recently been exchanged between the two countries are well worth remembering both in Belgium and in England.

WILKIE COLLINS, ESQ.

THIS distinguished author, of whom we this week publish a Portrait, is the eldest son of the late Mr. W. Collins, R.A., the well-known painter of rustic scenes, and was born in London, in 1824. His mother was a sister to Mrs. Carpenter, one of the best female portrait-painters of our time. He was educated at a private school, and is the author of a biography of his father, published in 1848. He has also published the following popular works of fiction:—“Basil,” “After Dark,” “The Dead Secret,” “The Queen of Hearts,” and “Antonina,” and an agreeable narrative of a walking tour in Cornwall, under the title of “Rambles beyond Railways.” He is a member of the Guild of Literature and Art, and took a prominent part in the amateur performances which were got up for its benefit. In 1857 his unpublished drama, entitled “The Frozen Deep,” was first produced at Tavistock House, Mr. C. Dickens and other amateurs performing it with great success. It was afterwards brought out with the same cast at the Gallery of Illustration, for the benefit of the “Jerrold Fund,” the Queen having previously witnessed a private representation of it at that place. Before this he had produced also “The Lighthouse,” first played in private at the same place, and afterwards produced at the Olympic Theatre. In 1859-60 his “Woman in White” appeared as a serial in *All the Year Round*. It was followed by “No Name,” also first published in the same periodical. Both these novels have since been issued in a separate form, have passed through several editions here and in America, and have been translated into French and German. Among Mr. Collins's other works are “The Dead Secret” and “Armadale,” the latter of which first appeared in the pages of the *Cornhill Magazine*, and has been reprinted in the library edition form.

THE THAMES HAVEN COMPANY.—Under the above designation a company has been formed, the object of which is to secure for the importers of foreign live stock the advantage of landing cattle at the railway station at Thames Haven, and by means of the Tilbury and Southend lines conveying them direct to the Metropolitan Cattle Market. Those advantages consist, in the first place, of avoiding all delays on the river beyond this particular point, arising from fog and other impediments; of preventing the transit through the streets of the metropolis; and considerably shortening the time of transit to the ultimate destination of the cattle. The system having been found to work well, it was thought advisable to increase the accommodation at Thames Haven, and a new pier was erected. The works comprehend a pier, 186 ft. long, with an area of 7134 cubic feet, with four landing-places, so constructed that there is capability of disembarking cattle at all times, independent of high or low tide. It is furnished with a large steam-crane for hoisting out goods, and two lines of rails are to be laid on its surface, so that the transit from the vessels to the railway is easy and rapid, the trucks being loaded at the ship's side. Attached to the establishment is a slaughter-house, capable of disposing of any cattle which it may be desirable to forward to town in the shape of dead meat; while there are twenty-four pens, roomy and well ventilated, each of them well supplied with pure water from a well sunk for the purpose; and, the establishment being placed on the verge of fourteen acres of grassland, there is all the food for the animals that may be required during their brief stay at this, their point of departure for the market. It is quite evident that by these arrangements cattle, after the sea voyage, from which in a certain sense they have to suffer, will be relieved from many hours of river passage, with the double advantage of saving time and deterioration to the stock. It may be added that all sanitary precautions are carefully attended to, and a maximum of accommodation in regard to the space allotted to individual animals afforded. The plan of construction is, at the same time, simple, and, apparently, economical; the appearance of the whole establishment being utilitarian in the best sense of that term.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The appearance of the Emperor in the hunting-field has given much satisfaction in Paris, as it is argued that his Majesty could not indulge in such hard exercise unless he was completely restored to health.

A report, addressed to the Emperor by Marshal Randon, Minister of War, has been published at Paris, nominating the commission which, agreeably to his Majesty's order, is to inquire into the advisability of modifying the military organisation of the empire. The commission, the chief presidency of which the Emperor reserves to himself, is to seek the means of placing the national forces in a condition to ensure the defence of the territory and maintain the political influence of France. The commission is composed of six Ministers, the Marshals, and several Generals.

It has often been asserted that the Emperor does not approve of the over-officialness of the Home authorities in their arbitrary and capricious interference with the press, though he hesitates to interfere with their petty despotism. For once, however, he has openly showed his dissatisfaction, and has released the *Evenement* from a sentence of suppression passed upon it.

ITALY.

The final result of the plebiscitum in Venetia shows 641,758 votes in favour of union with Italy. There were only 69 negative votes. Great popular enthusiasm prevails throughout Venetia. The King has sent a reply to an address forwarded to him by the clergy of Mantua. His Majesty, in expressing his thanks, says that self-abnegation towards the country with the object of rendering it strong and united has always inspired his policy, and he sees with pleasure that these aspirations find great support from the Lombardo-Venetian clergy.

The session of the Italian Parliament has been closed by a Royal decree. Only for a short time, however. Another decree is to be shortly issued for the re-assembling of the Parliament, and in the meantime Venetia is to elect her members.

Baron Ricaschi has addressed a circular to the prefects of the kingdom stating that the cessation of foreign occupation enables the Government to recall immediately the Bishops who have been removed from their sees or confined to a certain residence. The only exceptions made for the present apply to those Bishops residing at Rome and those against whom proof of political intrigue has been recently furnished.

The Pope has just delivered two allocutions. In one he denounces and declares to be null and void the measures of the Italian Government for the suppression of the religious orders, the secularisation of ecclesiastical property, and the law of civil marriage. His Holiness also protests against the project of making Rome the capital of Italy; and declares that he is ready to suffer death for the maintenance of the rights of the Holy See or to seek in another country the requisite security for the exercise of his Apostolic ministry. The second allocution is directed against the late act of the Russian Government tending to the destruction of Roman Catholicism in Russia.

AUSTRIA.

An attempt to assassinate the Emperor of Austria, at Prague, has been providentially frustrated by an Englishman. By telegraph we have the following brief details:—As the Emperor was leaving the Bohemian Theatre on Saturday evening, and was on the point of stepping into his carriage, a working man levelled a loaded pistol at his Majesty's head. The act was observed by Captain Palmer, who, with great promptitude, seized the fellow's uplifted arm and prevented the accomplishment of his foul purpose. The fellow is now in the hands of the police.

The Continental journals discuss with some energy the appointment of Baron von Beust to be Foreign Minister for Austria. Upon the whole, the appointment is regarded as a good one, although it is spoken of as anti-Prussian in character. Count Mensdorff, who has been replaced as Minister for Foreign Affairs by Baron von Beust, will return to the military service.

The Emperor has sanctioned the Ministerial proposition to convocate the Hungarian Diet for Nov. 19. Count Esterhazy has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted.

Complaints have been addressed by the Austrian Government to Count Apizzone, the Italian representative in Vienna, relative to insults alleged to have been offered to Austrian subjects in Venetia. To these complaints Count Apizzone has replied by a letter to the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which he states that he had no knowledge of the circumstances in question; but he could assure the Minister, with every expression of sincere regret, that the Italian Government would endeavour, by the most energetic measures, to prevent any recurrence of similar events.

PRUSSIA.

It is stated that the changes in the Prussian army necessitated by the acquisition of the new States will commence being carried out on Nov. 5. The new officers have already been appointed.

SAXONY.

The King and Queen of Saxony arrived at Dresden on the 26th ult. His Majesty has issued a proclamation in which he thanks the inhabitants for their proved fidelity under recent trials and assures them of his continued affection and of his earnest wish to heal the country's wounds, to promote its prosperity, to equitably administer justice, and to further by every possible means a prudent development of the political institutions of the kingdom. His Majesty also declares that he will devote himself to the new Confederation with the same fidelity which he displayed towards the former Bund, and that he will use every effort to render the new alliance a blessing both to Saxony and Germany.

HOLLAND.

The results of the new elections to the Second Chamber are as yet only partially known, but up to the present the Conservative and Liberal parties appear very nearly balanced. Among the candidates elected are twenty-nine members of the former Chamber, sixteen of whom voted in favour of the motion of M. Keuchenius censuring the appointment of M. Meyer, and thirteen against that motion. In several localities second balloting is necessary, the result of which will be ascertained on the 14th inst.

THE CANDIAN INSURRECTION.

Official intelligence has been received at Constantinople from Candia announcing that an obstinate and sanguinary battle, resulting in the defeat of the insurgents and the occupation of Apocorones by the Imperial troops, had been fought near Vrissa. The Cretans were compelled to lay down their arms and capitulate. Mustapha Pacha was marching upon Spakchia, the last refuge of the insurgents. Among the prisoners taken by the Imperial troops, all of whom were conveyed to the Turkish fortresses in the island, were three superior officers and 135 subalterns of Greek nationality.

It is impossible, however, to get at the truth from the telegrams which come to hand in reference to the insurrection. One telegram from Alexandria says the Turkish troops had been defeated by the insurgents; another from the same place, dated two days later, says the Turk-Egyptian army had gained a decisive victory. An Odessa telegram speaks of Mustapha Pacha having captured Keramia, pushed forward to the mountains, and been defeated there after four days' fighting. The Greek Consulate in London has received an official telegram announcing another defeat of the Turks in Candia.

THE UNITED STATES.

The most important item in the news from New York, which is to the 20th ult., is a hoax which, it is alleged, has been played upon the Pennsylvania *Leager*. That journal received from its correspondent in Washington a despatch stating that the President had submitted to the Attorney-General questions as to the constitutional character of Congress and the legality of ignoring its existence. This, of course, implied that Mr. Johnson was disposed to play a part similar to that enacted by Cromwell with the Long Parliament and by Napoleon I. with the Council of Five Hundred—in other

words, to execute a coup-d'état. The whole story, however, has been positively denied; though the idea is entertained in some quarters that the publication was more premature than unfounded.

The President, who seems determined to make every sacrifice for the success of his policy, has at last yielded to the pressure of the Fenians and ordered the restoration of the arms taken from them by the United States troops on the occasion of the raids last spring against Canada. This order has been put into operation at Buffalo, where the United States district attorney, in obedience to instructions from Washington, has ordered the military commandant of the district to turn over to the Fenians all arms seized in that city, or at other places in the district, upon the giving of bonds in double the value of the arms that they shall not be used in violation of the neutrality laws. The Government, in restoring these arms, acts upon the principle that, having abandoned the prosecution of the Fenian officials, it cannot consistently hold their private property. The necessary bonds are signed by Fenian “centres” of circles. The real reason why these arms are restored is to prevent a Fenian defection from causing the New York election to go against the President, and the general belief is that at present, and until after the elections, the Fenians can do pretty much as they please if they only promise to vote right. The loss of Pennsylvania, however, has decreed the loss of New York to the President, in spite of Fenian conciliation.

MEXICO.

Advices from the Rio Grande to the 12th ult. state that Mejia had completely routed the Liberal main army under Escobedo, under the walls of Monterey, and was marching on Matamoros, where anarchy continued to prevail among the contending factions. A deputation from the mercantile community of Matamoros had waited upon the Emperor Maximilian and requested his Majesty to occupy Matamoros, declaring that the whole population would rise for the Empire.

SOUTH AMERICA.

General Lopez, President of Paraguay, has made propositions for peace. The latest intelligence from the seat of war announces that the allied forces, under General Mitre, attacked Curupaiti, but were repulsed, with considerable loss. Paraguayan accounts state this loss at 8000 men and six ships. Great agitation prevailed in the Argentine Confederation.

WITCHCRAFT IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

DURING the hearing of a charge of assault at Retford Petty Sessions, last week, preferred by an agricultural servant named Swallow against a fellow-servant named Bellamy, a statement was made which created the utmost astonishment, and proved incontrovertibly that, notwithstanding all the popular efforts being made to promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the masses, there yet remain many strong proofs of the extensive hold which superstition and credulity have on their minds. The complainant said he and the defendant were fellow-servants, at Mr. Ellis's, North Leverton—defendant being first, and he second, man. Defendant had frequently fancied something was amiss with the horses of which they had charge, and blamed complainant for using some influence with the animals which caused them to appear as defendant fancied. He frequently threatened complainant with ill-treatment. “He would,” he said, “bleed him and let his bowels down,” and other like expressions. Complainant was so frightened that on the day of the assault he went over to Sturton and told his father. On his return, having also told his master, he was sent by the latter to the defendant, who was ploughing in one of the fields. When complainant got to defendant the latter asked him where he had been; and, on being told to Sturton, after saying complainant had some witchcraft about him, defendant began to beat and strike him about the head, face, and neck with the thick end of a whipstock unmercifully. Defendant said it was all true that complainant had been bewitching the horses, but he did not do it willingly. He was made to do so by another party; and as he (defendant) had heard that if he got dragon's blood and gave some to the horses when so bewitched it would send it away, he had done so, and found it correct. He had done it in various ways, and several times when he had seen the horses affected on complainant coming into the stable. He produced a small tin canister in which a quantity of the powder was kept. He also stated that he had got some charms, which he was told would keep the witch out of the stables, and he had put them up in a corner. They were given him by a man at the railway station, who wrote them out of a book. The man's name was Ranby, and the following is a copy of the pretended charm:—

“Omnis Spiritus laudent Dominum.
Misericordiam habe Deus
Desinetur Inimicus D.V.”

Defendant also admitted he had told complainant that he should draw blood if he continued to use witchcraft. The Bench wished to hear what Mr. Ellis, the master, had to say about his man, and were told by him, as also by Mr. Bomford, with whom he had previously lived, that he was a good servant, that they paid no attention to his notions about witchcraft, and he was right enough. The Bench told Mr. Ellis that they did not think his property, or the boy's life, safe with such a man, and they suggested that the complainant had better leave his service, which Mr. Ellis ultimately agreed to, and to pay his wages. After consulting together for some time, the Bench ordered defendant to pay £2 fine and costs. On being told the decision, defendant said, “There's witching the same now as ever there was, only they durst not show it; and there's the same book as there always was.” After he had paid the above amount, another copy of the so-called charms was found in defendant's watchcase, and so sincere was his belief in their virtue that on finding they were in the court he stated to Police-officer Cooper “he would sooner give £2 more than lose them.” They were given to him, and he then left the court. Complainant was also paid his wages, and he left his situation.

THE SURGEON OF THE ALABAMA.—The brave resignation of Mr. Llewellyn, surgeon of the Confederate cruiser Alabama, who, when the ship was sinking under the enemy's shot in the action off Cherbourg, elected to go down with the wounded men under his care rather than abandon his post, and who died thus, is not likely to have been forgotten by the public, and is to be permanently commemorated by his friends. On Saturday a meeting of the subscribers for a memorial to Mr. Llewellyn was held at Charing-cross Hospital, of which institution he was a student, when it was resolved that permission should be solicited of the authorities to put up in the hospital a marble tablet in commemoration of Mr. Llewellyn and his noble deed, and that to the same end a Llewellyn scholarship in connection with the hospital should be founded with the remainder of the money subscribed. A considerable sum has been raised, a large proportion of which was contributed from India.

THE TRIAL OF MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS.—The State prisoner at Fortress Monroe, Jefferson Davis, is now held virtually by the military authority of the Government; but an important correspondence has just been published which shows that the Government will give him up to the civil courts for trial upon proper application being made. The President, on Oct. 6, wrote to the Attorney-General to ask what further steps it was necessary for the Government to take in order to bring Davis to a speedy trial; and on the 12th the Attorney-General replied that there was nothing in the present condition of Virginia to prevent the full exercise of the jurisdiction of the civil courts. He considered that Congress, as well as the President, had taken all necessary measures to remove the courts in Virginia from military interference or control. The Attorney-General, however, discovers a flaw in the legislation of Congress that may interfere with a trial in November. The next term of the Circuit Court which ought to try Mr. Davis begins on the fourth Monday of November; but Congress has passed an Act changing the circuit, and this may require a new allotment of the judges. To overcome this difficulty, which Chief Justice Chase takes advantage of to postpone a trial, additional legislation may be required. The Attorney-General states that the prisoner will be surrendered at any time to the civil courts if the proper process of law to obtain the surrender be resorted to. The District Attorney of the Virginia Court, however, refuses to apply for this surrender, because there is no other place than Fortress Monroe, within the district, where the prisoner could be properly kept, or where his personal comfort and health could be so well provided for. Mr. Davis's counsel, for a similar reason, have not yet made any application for his transfer to civil custody. The Attorney-General concludes by saying:—“I am unable to see what further action can be taken on the part of the Executive to bring the prisoner to trial. Mr. Davis must for the present remain where he is, until the court which has jurisdiction to try him shall be ready to act, or until his custody is demanded under lawful process of the Federal Courts. I would suggest that, to avoid any misunderstanding on the subject, an order issue to the commandant of Fortress Monroe to surrender the prisoner to civil custody whenever demanded by the United States Marshal upon process from the Federal Courts.” The probabilities are that the continued agitation of the question by men of all parties will result in Mr. Davis being tried in May, 1867. The objection mentioned by the Attorney-General will prevent a trial at the approaching term of the court in November; but Congress will most probably cure this defect at the approaching session. The President declines every solicitation of Mr. Davis's counsel and others for his release on bail or parole, for the reason given now for every action or refusal to act on his part—that his “reconstruction policy might be imperilled.” His counsel have therefore suspended their efforts in this direction.

THE YORKSHIRE WOLDS TUMULI.

AFTER the openings in the sepulchral mounds of the prehistoric tribes remaining on the Sherburn and Ganton Wolds, near Scarborough, the Rev. W. Greenwell, of Durham, and with him Sir John Lubbock, Sir Tatton Sykes; the Rev. Frederick Porter, of Yeddingham; the Rev. John Mason, of Sherborn, and several other gentlemen interested in archaeological matters, spent last week in investigating the structure and contents of three round barrows on the estates of Sir Tatton Sykes, on the summit of the mid-wold range above Weaverthorpe, East Riding. The openings already reported were of a peculiarly rude and poor people; but at Weaverthorpe the barrows proved to be, although of the neolithic period, of a people far more advanced in the art of fashioning flint into weapons, but still belonging to the stone age. With many of the burials highly-wrought flints were found, but not a single trace of metal of any kind was met with.

The first houe opened was of eighteen yards diameter, and now of 2 ft. altitude (having been much reduced in height by tillage), and formed of soil mixed with lumps of chalk. Four yards south of the centre, upon the natural surface of the ground, a small piece of a British urn was found, and near it the body of a child, so much decayed that the position of burial was not ascertainable. At three yards S.W. of centre the body of another child was found, also entirely gone to decay. This body was in an oval hollow sunk into the chalk, 1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft., and 8 in. deep. Just to the N.W. of the burial an urn was laid on its side with the mouth or aperture to the N.E., and placed round this urn were several skeletons of the common water rat, all seated on their haunches. The bones of this animal were also found strewed in various parts of the houe—mingled, in fact, with the materials forming it. Charcoal was also met with here and there, and scattered in the materials of the mound were several chippings and flakes of flint. The true centre yielded nothing.

The second barrow was of a much richer description. This was twenty-three yards in diameter, and ploughed down to an altitude of 4 ft. It was remarkable for having very few flints strewed among the materials, only one "thumb-flint" being occasionally met with, with a few chippings. Features of an unusual nature attended the opening, and continued throughout. The first surprise was a novel-shaped urn, round five yards S.W. by S. of centre, 2 ft. above the natural surface. This urn was in pieces from pressure. The ware was perfectly plain—the type of pottery found with the dolichocephalic people; but the bottom was circular, or apsidal, consequently the urn could not stand upright. It was also peculiar in being well-baked and of a redder colour than usual. Nearly below this, and upon the natural surface, fragments of another urn, of precisely the same manufacture, were found. These urns did not seem to have at any time had reference to any special interment. Two yards to the west of them, however, and on the natural surface, three yards south of the centre, an unburnt body was found, laid on its right side, the body contracted, knees to the elbows, and hands up to the chin, the right hand crossed over and clasping the left. The type of skull could not then be ascertained. From before the face a flint flake was taken. One yard east of the urn before named and on the same level the body of a very small child was found, thoroughly decayed. About four yards south-west of the centre the body of another child was found, also totally decayed. It is noteworthy that these two burials of children were both on the same level as the urn. Three yards south of the centre a single fragment of a human skull, and with it a flint flake, was found, but nothing more of the body. Just south of the centre, laid on the right side, the body of an adult was found. The body was doubled up in the usual way and the hands were up to the head. Behind the skull a round stone was placed, a long, water-worn pebble from the sea-shore, bearing marks of use at one end, as if of a pounder or hammer. Behind the neck was deposited a flint-flake knife, wrought carefully along one edge. Almost below this body, but slightly to the south and about one yard south of the centre, a cist of an oval shape, sunk into the chalk—6 ft. 8 in. by 4 ft. 6 in., and 2 ft. deep—was discovered. This cist was east and west, and among the soil it contained were numerous bones of animals, split longitudinally to obtain the marrow. Mixed with these were several human bones, also broken, and many pieces of skull. Quite at the bottom, and at the west end of the cist, a body was found on the right side, contracted, the head to the west, the left hand on the lower part of the abdomen and the right hand on the left elbow. Behind the neck of this body was a large flake of flint. This interment, although the lowest of the series, seems to have been a secondary one, the barrow, when in section, showing a cut through from the top, which had destroyed the upper part of a body interred at a higher level—just as at the Ganton Wold barrows. The stray bones of this disturbed burial might have been those found in the cist. On the north-east side, seven yards from the cist, a much decayed body of a very tall man was found doubled up. The stature of this man must have been extraordinary. This interment was about 2 ft. above the natural surface. At about the same level, and two yards west of centre, a red-deer horn was found. Great quantities of charcoal were near the centre and south of it, and broken-up animal bones were found scattered in various parts of the houe.

The third barrow was of a surprising richness, surpassing all the investigations yet made on the wolds. This was not a great distance from the last (on an adjoining farm, in fact), but the contents were varied and interesting in the extreme. The barrow was thirteen yards in diameter, and now about 4 ft. high, but ploughed down. The material was earth, with not much chalk and some charcoal, and charcoal was found throughout on the natural surface of the ground. Although a comparatively small barrow, the burials were numerous—far exceeding those previously opened, but not massed together, as in the Ganton barrows. Seven yards south of the centre, and on the plane of the mound, a fragment of an urn was met with. Of this urn, and also of some others, many pieces shown as shards were found among the materials composing the houe. Close by the first piece of urn found was a spindle-whorl of clay, 19 in. in diameter, indicating the people to have had a knowledge of spinning. Six yards south of centre an urn standing upright was found. This was of the "food-vessel" type, and had four impierced ears. Five yards south of the centre the first body was found, laid on its right side, contracted, the hands up to the face, left hand over right, and head to the west. Above the knees, and placed between the knees and the chin, was a thong-marked urn of a very unusual type, having an apsidal bottom and four feet. This body and the accompanying urn were interred about 1 ft. above the natural surface. This is the second example of the four-footed urn found in the district, the first having been found many years ago by Mr. Pycock, of Malton. Five yards east-south-east of centre a child's body, totally decayed, was found, 1 ft. above the natural ground. Two yards south-west of centre, and 2 ft. above the natural ground, body was found, laid on the left side, with the head to the west, contradicted in the usual way. Behind the head were two finely and peculiarly wrought flints—one a large knife, 3 in. long by nearly 2 in. wide, leaf or pear shaped, and elaborately chipped on both edges; the other a portion (apparently) of a triangular scraper, nearly 3 in. long—a peculiar implement of novel type, and remarkably well wrought. The under side was flat and smooth, having been struck from the core at one blow. The body with which these fine implements were buried had the left hand over the right, and both up to the face. The head was to the east. On removing the body below the knees a long flake scraper of flint was found, showing many signs of use. Three yards W.S.W. of centre, and 1 ft. above the natural surface, was a child's body, completely decayed. Three yards east of centre, on the plane, was a body on the right side, with head to east. Behind the head was a rough flint scraper. The jaws of this body were greatly diseased. The teeth presented a most peculiar appearance, being reduced to the smallest proportions, and half hidden in the eroded jaws. As before, the knees were drawn up and the hands were up to the head. One yard E.S.E. of centre, a contracted body was found on its left side, lying 2 ft. above the natural surface, with head to the west. The hands were up to the head, and upon them was laid a beautifully worked long

flint scraper, finely chipped over the whole surface. Above this, and also resting upon the hands, was a very peculiar urn of a globular form, covered with point markings of bone or wood; and, strangely, about this body, but especially near the head, were strewn the bones of a burnt body—a curious mixture of cremation and inhumation. Three yards E.N.E. from centre and 2 ft. above the plane, a body on its left side, with head to the east, was found. The body was contracted like the rest, the hands, left over right, being up to the face. Five yards E.N.E. of centre the contracted body of a child, on left side, was found, 1 ft. above the natural surface. On the same level the burial of another child was found, totally decayed, six yards N.N.E. of centre.

Three yards north-west of centre, 2 ft. above surface, another child was found, on its right side, also much decayed; and four yards north-east of centre yet another child, on its right side, also decayed, but position distinguishable to show head to the west. At the actual centre was a deep cist into the chalk, an irregular square, 5 ft. deep and 8 ft. across. About forty years ago the centre of this houe had been dug into, the then tenant of the land (Mr. Anderson) found the central interment, the skull of which he replaced. This was again discovered, but consequent on the disturbance the position of the burial could not be told. With this skull—a very spacious, brachycephalous head of mature years and robust make—was a large flint flake knife, 3 in. by 1 1/2 in., wrought on the edge, and a large rough flint scraper, not wrought, except on the conchoidal bulb. This was undoubtedly the primary burial. All the other skulls are much crushed, and until rebuilt their type cannot be told. A very beautiful willow-leaf shaped arrow-head of flint, 2 1/2 in. by 1/2 in., was found 4 ft. S.S.W. of centre, and with it a thumb-flint and small piece of urn. Quantities of chippings and three fine thumb-flints and the left-handed scraper were found among the materials of the houe. The implements throughout were superb. The chalk taken from the cist formed a cairn which reached to the surface.

The third week of the scientific examinations of the British barrows in Yorkshire has been spent by the Rev. William Greenwell, of Durham, and with him Captain Egerton, of Londesborough; Dr. Neis, the Rev. F. Simons, Rector of Dalton; the Rev. Canon Musgrave, Rector of Etton, and others, on the Goodmanham Wolds, near Enthorpe, on the estates of Lord Londesborough. The removal from Weaverthorpe proved to be one from a district where inhumation had been the regular custom to one exclusively of cremation. A group of barrows of various sizes were opened, varying from twelve to forty yards in diameter, and from 1 1/2 ft. to 6 ft. high, all being more or less ploughed down. They were situated on rising and sloping ground in one of the smaller wold valleys, and probably the whole group of burial mounds number about thirty. Of these, some were opened in 1809, and many others at different times since then. All are made of soil, mixed with flint and chalk, and sometimes very large pieces or blocks of flint. The results of the openings showed that nearly all the bodies were burnt, and also that the burnings had been made on the spot, an unusual circumstance, only previously found in the examination of the small tumuli at Castle Howard. One barrow, however, revealed a highly-important feature. Barrow No. 4 showed that the body was placed before burning in precisely the same position as the non-cremation people placed their bodies in the ground. The burnings had been very imperfect and the body was charred, the bones showing the doubled-up position admirably. This seemed a remarkable and important discovery, showing that the custom of contracting the body for burial as adopted by the supposed aborigines was continued by the later race, who burnt the body and collected the fragments. The pottery found during the week was also remarkable. Several urns were found accompanying the burnt burials, but none of them contained burnt bones, and, with one exception, were miniature cinerary urns, and not like those which accompany, but do not contain, burnt bodies. There was also a singular absence of flint implements, both with the bodies and in the material of the houes; and, what was further remarkable, the searchings made in the adjoining fields showed that flint chippings and implements were particularly scarce in the surface soil. The researches, however, were on the whole of a peculiar nature and of great interest.

The barrow first opened was sixteen yards in diameter and 4 ft. high. Four yards and a half east of centre and a little above the natural surface an urn was met with, measuring 8 in. in height, the rim overhanging, and ornamented with punctured markings in the clay, arranged in squares of nine impressions. This urn was empty and upright, and about 1 ft. west of it a second urn, also upright, was found, the pottery being quite plain, but the rim overhanging. The bottom of this second urn was on a level with the top of the first. Both urns were surrounded with burnt earth, mixed sparingly with charcoal, and both were placed amid singularly scanty remains of burnt bodies, of which the first was a young person and the second much younger—a mere child. The centre of the houe yielded nothing, the bodies having been burnt and interred on the same places. Two chippings of foreign flint and one long scraper ("thumb flint"), very like the type of the one found with the red urn in the Ganton barrows, were the only implements found in the barrow.

The second barrow was of twelve yards diameter and 2 ft. high. Five yards east-south-east of centre, on the plane, a burnt body was found, quite like those of the first barrow, and also burnt on the spot. There were, however, very few traces remaining of the bones. Three yards and a half east of the centre a second burnt body was found, also burnt on the spot, and with very few bones remaining. One yard and a half east of the last a third burnt body was found, more bones remaining, but still very few, and those of an older person. This was also burnt on the spot. Three yards south-east of centre, and 1 ft. above the surface, an urn was found lying on the side, the mouth to the east, and beneath it an "incense cup" of 2 in. in diameter, and 1 1/2 in. high, the pottery quite plain. The urn has a rim with horizontal workings of impressed thong, and below the rim the urn has a line of V markings, also of thong. The urn is 4 in. high, and with it was the least possible trace of burnt bone—microscopic, in fact—the body having been almost completely burnt on the spot. Two yards east of centre, 1 1/2 ft. above the natural surface, was another burnt body, and upon the bones, or a little among them, was an urn, standing upright, 5 in. high, with overhanging rim, and ornamented with punctured holes; but the surface of the urn was too much decayed to make out the pattern. In this case the body was burnt on the spot. A change occurred two yards east north-east of centre, where a burnt body was found on the surface of the ground, but not burnt on the spot. At the centre, but 1 1/2 ft. above the surface, an urn was found reversed over a burnt body, which had been nearly burnt up on the spot, very few traces of bone remaining. This urn was 5 in. high, ornamented with five lines of vertical markings, forming perpendicular zigzag impressions, and was a perfect miniature of a cinerary urn, beautifully made and quite perfect. The line-marking had been made by a sharp-pointed instrument of wood or bone. No flint was met with in the material of this barrow.

The third barrow opened was fourteen yards in diameter and 2 ft. high. In the centre was an urn, upright, standing upon burnt bones. This urn was afterwards found to be standing on a second urn, which was laid on its side, the mouth to the west, and deposited also among burnt bones. Both urns were 8 in. high and with overhanging rims, but quite plain. The bodies had been burnt on the spot.

The fourth barrow was nineteen yards in diameter and 4 1/2 ft. high. In the centre, 3 1/2 ft. above the plane, a body, burnt on the spot, was found, and in some places the bones remained only just charred; as regards the cervical vertebra, very slightly so. Large quantities of charcoal lay underneath the bones, which lay in the position in which they had been placed before being subjected to the fire. This was a remarkable discovery—the body, half charred, lay on its right side, and was doubled up with the knees to the chin, and with the head to the south-west. At the head was placed an urn, 7 in. high, with overhanging rim, and ornamented with horizontal and perpendicular line markings arranged to form squares, the squares forming lines round the urn. The body in this case was placed in a hole of

3 ft. diameter, a cist sunk into the ground, and around it was a great redness, and much sign of burning. Here was a connecting link between the inhumation and cremation customs, showing that the method of burial uniformly adopted in the former was also that in use in the latter, prior to the application of the fire; in fact, the latter people prepared their body for burning just as the early people deposited theirs in the ground in the customary doubled up or contracted position. In the houe, also, were found a flint core, from which implements had been struck, and a quartz pebble, which had been used as a pounder or hammer, all broken round the edges for use, a counterpart of the one found behind the head of an unburnt body in one of the Weaverthorpe barrows.

The fifth barrow was nineteen yards in diameter and 2 ft. high. In the centre was a cist 4 ft. deep and 10 ft. by 8 ft. measurements, formed east and west. At the bottom was a contracted and unburnt body, laid on the left side, with head to south-east, and close to the south side of cist. Above the body were great masses of charcoal—large blocks of it, in fact. The body had as nearly as possible gone to decay. Parts of another skull—the parietal and occipital portions—were found about a foot above the other body, but no other bones were with them. Was there here a displacement of one body to inter another? There were no signs of such, and the archeologists present could not determine, and there is no satisfactory conclusion arrived at respecting the pieces of the second skull.

The sixth and last barrow opened of this series was a return to the cremation type. The houe was twenty-three yards diameter and 1 1/2 ft. high. In the centre was a cist, 3 ft. deep by 2 ft. 3 in. diameter, evidently made before the body was burnt, the burnt bones chiefly remaining on the place of cremation. Charcoal was in the hole, and some few bones were in it and above it, the burning about being extremely large. Several large flints were placed over the interment.

These openings were on the southern slopes of the wolds, in which district the burials seem to have been more frequently burnt than otherwise—only one instance of inhumation pure and simple occurring. The party, with the Rev. W. Greenwell at the fore, have returned to the Weaverthorpe wolds, where the craniologic features of the inquiry are most abundantly met with.

SICILIAN ATROCITY.—Letters from Marsala of the 19th ult. mention that a quondam inspector of police, or *capo di gendarmi*, had been arrested on suspicion of being an accomplice in a most atrocious murder committed about three weeks past, on the high road between Marsala and Trapani. An unfortunate landholder, who was reputed wealthy, was taken, and, in order to compel him to divulge where he had secreted his riches, he was placed under a wine-press and literally squeezed to death. This is only one instance of the barbarities which are being daily committed in Sicily.

A SALT ISLAND.—Near Vermilion Bay, on the coast of Louisiana, there is an island called Petit Anse Island, which was mentioned by early explorers of the Gulf of Mexico as an island of salt. During the late American war, when Southern ports were blockaded, the Confederates looked after this island, and found that almost anywhere beneath its surface, which has an extent of 5000 acres, there is, at an average depth of 15 ft., a stratum of hard rock-salt, nearly pure, and of unknown but practically inexhaustible quantity. The statement is now put forth on the authority of Professor Spencer F. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, that there has been received at that institution a piece of matting wrought of the bark of a cane (*Arundinaria macrosporum*) by a human hand, which was certainly found in that island 2 ft. below a stratum in which the fossil remains of an elephant of the remotest period were embedded.

CONSTITUTION LAW IN VENICE.—Two men stood under the open loggia of Sanovalo a few nights ago and cried aloud to the people. Beside them was a pile of blue-covered pamphlets, and ever and anon eager voices demanded copies, and eager hands were held out to grasp them. There were well-dressed citizens, gondoliers, bersaglieri with their plumed hats, rough sailors from the fleet, ragged ragazzini from the streets, and women with their babies, all seeking to see the contents of the thin blue pamphlets, and to learn—what is of more import to them than banners and blue lights—the laws by which they are to be governed. Two librarians of Padua have conceived the idea of reproducing in this form 30,000 copies of the "Statuto Fondamentale del Regno d'Italia," issued by Charles Albert, on March 4, 1848, and now at last become possible to be carried into execution in Venice. First of all, the Catholic Apostolic and Roman religion is declared to be the only religion of the State, but the other existing faiths are to be tolerated in accordance with law. The Government is a representative monarchy, and the throne hereditary according to the Salic law. Then come the duties and rights of the Sovereigns, the Queens, the Regents, and all Royal personages. The next heading is "Of the Rights and Duties of Citizens." Among these are equality in the sight of the law, equal taxation, individual liberty, no one being arrested except by regular form of law; the domicile is inviolable, property equally so, the press free within legal restrictions, public debt guaranteed, and the right of meeting for discussion without arms recognised, only it must not be in public places, which remain subjected to police regulations. Under the next heading the constitution and duties of the Senate are defined; then the same in relation to the Chamber of Deputies; and following this such rules are given as are common to both Chambers. Further on come the responsibility of Ministers and their appointment by the King. They have admission to both Chambers, but no Minister has a vote unless he has been elected as a Deputy. The administration of justice follows, and then general and transitory regulations concerning titles of nobility and other similar matters. The whole is signed by Charles Albert and countersigned by his Ministers. Last of all is the article dated Turin, March 17, 1861, in which Victor Emmanuel II. assumes the title of King of Italy, and this is countersigned by the Ministry of that day headed by the lost Cavour.

COSTESSEY HALL.

THE profound loyalty of the people of England imparts a peculiar interest, in their eyes, to whatever is done by the Queen or any of the Royal family, as well as to the places visited by her Majesty or any of her children. Accordingly, the latest spot honoured by the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales participates in this interest.

Cistesey (pronounced Cossey) Hall, the seat of the Right Hon. Lord Stafford, four or five miles from Norwich, is one of the most interesting of the rural palaces of England. The Royal manor of Cistesey was granted by Queen Mary, 1555, to her Vice-Chamberlain, Sir Henry Jernegan, whose ancestors, descended from the Danish Jernegans in the service of King Canute, had been settled in Suffolk since 1030. Sir Henry Jernegan built the original mansion, which still exists, and forms the nucleus of the modern edifice. It consists of a central hall and porch, facing the east, with wings, flanked by plain angle turrets, and surmounted by stepped gables. Though now in a dilapidated state, it is a good specimen of the old style of domestic architecture in that part of the country. At the beginning of this century a chapel was erected, from the designs of the late Mr. Edward Jerningham, at the south-west angle of the mansion. It is 90 ft. in length, terminating in an apse; the windows are superbly filled with ancient painted glass of the fifteenth century, and the tribune is fitted up with carved oak stalls of the same period.

The new mansion, attached to the old hall and the chapel, forming the picturesque architectural group given on the next page was commenced in 1827. Its principal apartments face the south and west, but extend northward to the margin of the River Wensum, the extreme measure in that direction being 330 ft. The building has been carried on since 1827, though not uninterruptedly, under the direction of the architect, Mr. J. C. Buckler, now of Oxford. He has consulted, for the details of his design, not only the valuable examples to be found in the county of Norfolk, but the magnificent remains of Thorbury Castle, built by Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, as well as other high authorities in this class of architecture. The Thorbury tower, which is 130 ft. in height, having a machicolated parapet, is one of the most conspicuous features of the exterior; the pinnacles and clustered chimneys enhance its general effect. The walls and window openings are constructed of brick and stone, the bricks having been cast in special moulds, of which as many as 1000 were required to supply the various enrichments of the design. The brick window in the south front is, perhaps, the largest and most complicated in pattern ever formed in that material. The stone sculptures consist mostly of shields of arms and family badges; no fanciful forms or devices being introduced in any part of the building.

The dining-hall of the old house leads to the library and drawing-room of the new one, flanked by the picture-gallery, 108 ft. in length. At the western extremity of this gallery stands the tower; at the side of which, a few yards distant, is the dining-room, 50 ft. by 30 ft., and 24 ft. high. Beyond this is a considerable range of offices, among which the kitchen is distinguished by its magnitude, its



COTESSEY HALL, NEAR NORWICH, THE SEAT OF LORD STAFFORD.

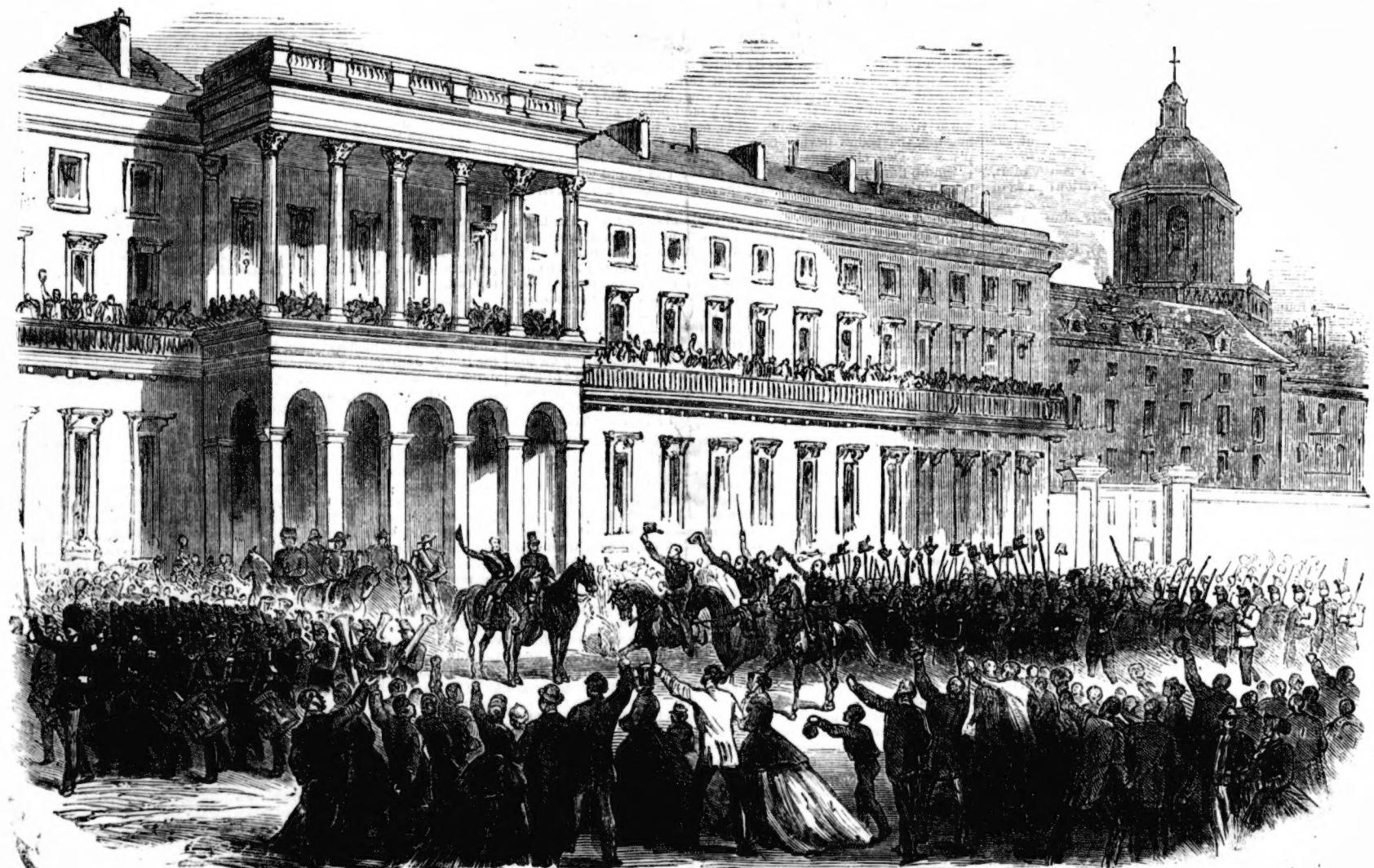
chimneys, and its lofty clock turret. The conservatory and a terrace carry the buildings to the water's edge.

The character of the architecture is maintained throughout the interior. The measures of the library are 40 ft. long by 26½ ft. wide, those of the drawing-room 44 ft. long by 26½ ft. wide, the height being 20 ft. The ceilings are coved, and overspread with intricate patterns of tracery formed of moulded ribs enriched with carved bosses, heightened in effect by gilding and colours. Each room has a spacious bay window facing the fireplace, all in elaborately-finished masonry. There are two bay-windows in the

gallery, built of red and white brick. The one on the side juts into the fountain-court, which is encompassed by several of the most noble members of the design. The ceiling of the gallery is panelled in squares, the ribs being rich in mouldings and carved bosses. The several doors opening thence into the south rooms are the most elaborately ornamented features of the interior, and exhibit the perfection of oak carved work and joinery, the work of Mr. Britcher, of Norwich.

The sumptuous modern furniture of these rooms is mingled with much of curious antiquity. Armour and tapestry hang in appropriate places on the walls, while the silk and paper hangings, designed by Mr. C. A. Buckler, are rich and beautiful. The state apartments, on the first floor, are magnificently fitted up. Adjoining

these is the St. Amand Room, which displays the celebrated oak panelling, canopy, and chimneypiece brought from the dismantled Abbey of St. Amand, near Rouen. This apartment formed the boudoir of the Princess of Wales during her visit to Costessey Park. The park and scenery around it are full of pleasant scenery, bounded by the hills, which are clothed with woods, exhibiting at the present season a gorgeous variety of colour.



THE BELGIAN FETE: REVIEW BEFORE THE KING AT BRUSSELS.—SEE PAGE 284.



THE BELGIAN FETE: RECEPTION, BY TORCHLIGHT, OF THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH VISITORS AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, BRUSSELS.—SEE PAGE 251.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1866.

CLERICAL INFLUENCE ON POPULAR EDUCATION.

THE teaching of the people of England, although a most expensive is not by any means a very satisfactorily-conducted process. One way and another, enormous sums are expended upon education, and yet, unhappily, ignorance doth much more abound among us than knowledge. Regarding the clergy of all denominations as teachers, adding to them the army of schoolmasters of all descriptions scattered throughout the land—reckoning the endowments of the Established Church, the salaries of Dissenting ministers, votes of public money, school fees, &c.—we have such a goodly array of means, both of men and money, for the dissemination of instruction, that the English should be the best educated and most intelligent people in the world; and yet the most intense, crass, and brutish ignorance prevails to an alarming extent among them. If it be reasonable to anticipate that results should correspond in extent to means employed, the educational system of this country must be considered a very gross failure. From a maximum of means we derive only a minimum of advantage. It is worth while to inquire into the cause of this most unsatisfactory result.

We assume, of course, that the diffusion of intelligence among the bulk of the people is a thing to be desired; although, judging by appearances, it may well be doubted whether many persons who affect to be ardent friends of education truly are so, or whether their notion of instruction does not really mean training under certain influences and indoctrination with certain tenets. If their own religious dogmas cannot be inculcated in school, we suspect that there are many persons who would rather have no schools at all. Practically, at all events, this seems to be the idea of parsondom in general. Clergymen of all denominations seem much more bent upon proselytising than on teaching; they are much more eager after recruits for their own particular communions than for the diffusion of instruction. Sectarian interests, in the clerical mind, override those of humanity. And so men are left in ignorance, and the means of instructing them are frustrated, lest one denomination should obtain an undue advantage in the struggle for adherents over another. To a miserable sectarian jealousy the intellectual and moral culture of the people is sacrificed. And it is among the clergy, and not the people of the several religious denominations, that this jealousy exists. One of the Education Commissioners, in a letter to the newspapers a few days ago, bore testimony to this fact.

Clerical influence, therefore, we hold to be one, and a main, cause of the failure of our educational machinery to produce adequate results. It follows, therefore, that clerical influence should be disregarded in considering educational questions; that a system of imparting sound secular instruction should be devised; that religious teaching should be left entirely to the parsons; and that the canting cry about "Godless education" should be treated with the contempt it deserves. Godless education, indeed! As if "Godless education"—if such a thing were possible—could be worse than Godless ignorance. But what teaching of children to read, write, work sums in arithmetic, and to know the natural laws bearing on their own well-being, has to do in inducing Godlessness, it is difficult to imagine. Intelligence—for the acquisition of which reading at least is indispensable—is much more likely to produce moral rectitude than stupidity. In other words, the cultivated *homo* is much more likely to be a good member of society than the mentally neglected. And this is true, notwithstanding that a few educated rogues do crop up into notice now and then, because these are as nothing compared with the mass of uncultured criminals with whom our police, and judges, and juries, and gaolers have constantly to deal. There is no mistake about it: secular education is better than no education at all, even for the furtherance of clerical purposes, if the clergy did but understand their own interests rightly. Land partially cleared and cultivated always bears a higher value—because more easily made productive—than a mere slice off a wilderness; and partially educated minds must be more open to receive religious impressions than if left in the crude state of doltish ignorance natural to mankind. Even the clergy, therefore, if they were wise, would labour to promote secular education, about the advantage of which there can be no dispute, and take their chance of propagating their own religious opinions afterwards. But as the clergy on this, as on some other questions, are not wise—as they are more ambitious to acquire influence than to promote knowledge—they must be put aside, and our educational machinery reformed without their aid.

The first step to be taken is to free education from the domination of religious sects and of sectarian dogmas, and then we shall be likely to obtain a uniform and vigorous system of instruction: things the lack of which has been

another source of failure, but which are unattainable under our present system of clerical sway. We have, at present, neither uniformity in the method of teaching nor harmony in the text-books of instruction. In no two schools, scarcely, are the same books used or the same method of tuition adopted. And, as few pupils can obtain all their education on the same forms and from the lips of the same masters, it follows that on every change a serious loss of time is sustained. Much has to be unlearned before anything can be acquired; old ideas have to be discarded ere new ones can be imbibed. Such being the case, it is not surprising that progress is slow and final results unsatisfactory.

It is abundantly clear that the system hitherto pursued of endeavouring to combine secular and religious teaching has failed, and we must therefore endeavour to devise a new and better way. If we are to wait till parsons are agreed upon religious dogmas, we shall be in danger of relapsing into barbarism. We must not stay for the advent of that impossible millennium. We must go to work at once; and the first thing we do must be to disregard clerical dictation, abolish clerical domination, and refuse to be influenced by clerical opinion. A truly national system of school instruction may then be instituted. But such a step is impossible so long as the clergy as a class are permitted control in this matter. They have, practically, had the management of our educational machinery for centuries, with the melancholy result that the bulk of the people are, intellectually and morally, still "much worse taught than fed," meagre as may be the dietary of the peasants in Devon and elsewhere. As educators, the clergy have utterly failed; and must now stand aside and leave to secular hands the task of imparting instruction on worldly affairs—the duty, in short, of training citizens; while they will be free to devote themselves to the performance of their own proper work—that of making Christians.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased, through Lord Derby, to confer a pension of £75 a year on the widow of the late Mr. Godfrey Sykes, formerly a pupil and teacher of the Sheffield School of Art, and the architectural decorator of the South Kensington Museum.

PRINCESS DAGMAR has been formally admitted into the Russo-Greek Church, and has received the name of Maria Feodorowna.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS has conferred the Order of Leopold on Mr. Frith, R.A., whose picture of "Ramsgate Sands" has recently been exhibited at Brussels.

THE EMPRESS OF MEXICO is reported to be no better.

THE REPORTS of Lord Clarendon's ill-health are very much exaggerated.

THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON has arrived in London from Prussia, where he has been minutely inspecting the Prussian army in every branch.

LORD NAAS is making a tour of the Irish harbours with the object of ascertaining whether anything can be done to increase the trade carried on in them.

THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT has disposed of the racehorse Rustic to the Prussian Government for £2000.

THE MARRIAGE of the EARL of ROSSLYN with the Hon. Mrs. Maynard is fixed for Nov. 5.

MR. TENNYSON, the Poet Laureate, has forwarded a contribution to the "Eye Defence and Aid Fund," which now amounts to more than £4000.

THE LORD MAYOR-ELECT has appointed the Rev. J. Russell Stock, Rector of All Hallows the Great and Less, as his Chaplain.

MR. GLADSTONE arrived at Rome a few days since, and has paid a visit to the Pope.

TWO FENIAN MARAUDERS (Colonel Lynch and a priest named M'Mahon) have been sentenced, at Toronto, to be hanged.

THE UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE has elected the Rev. F. D. Maurice Professor of "Casuistry, Moral Philosophy, and Moral Theology."

MR. JACOB SNIDER, the inventor of the method adopted by the Government for converting the Enfield into a breech-loading rifle, died on Thursday week.

ALL THE MONKS AT PALERMO have been ordered to discontinue wearing the monastic habit without delay.

THE FIRST SILK-DRESS PATTERN ever made on the Pacific coast of the United States was completed on Oct. 5.

PARIS, with half the population of London, raises a municipal revenue of £5,000,000, and applies it apparently with such success that the improvements pay for themselves.

ADMIRAL TEGETHOFF has received the hereditary title of Count of Lissa, with a pension of £2000. He has also been made a Knight of the Order of Maria Theresa—an honour usually conferred upon kings and princes only.

LORD BROUGHAM says that he has talked with a lady who lived in the reign of Charles II.; that lady was his great-great-aunt, who died, at the age of 106, in the year 1789.

BARON JAMES DE ROTHSCHILD has lost the use of one of his eyes, through complaint from which he had long suffered; and it is feared that he will ere long be quite blind, as the other eye is also affected.

LARGE SUBSCRIPTIONS are being sought for the building of a nave to Bristol Cathedral. For this purpose £7000 is promised; £30,000 will, it is estimated, be required.

THE MAYOR of BELFAST entertained Sir Hugh Cairns at a banquet, in the Music-hall of that town, on Friday evening. The banquet was of a private nature. About 150 gentlemen were present.

MR. EDWARD A. BOND has been appointed to the post of keeper of the department of manuscripts in the British Museum. Mr. Bond has for several years occupied the position of assistant keeper of the department, as well as that of Egerton librarian.

THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL OF MADRID, Marqués de la Pezuela, has promulgated a decree of exclusion against all those foreign newspapers whose teachings may be considered hostile to the Catholic religion or to the fundamental institutions of the kingdom of all the Spains.

THE POOR-LAW BOARD is about to issue an order the effect of which will be to increase the salaries of workhouse chaplains and to give each of them a seat at the board of guardians with which he may be connected.

MR. JOHN MORRISSET, the pugilist, has been placed in nomination as a candidate for Congress from the fifth district of New York.

AT MANY OF THE COLLIERIES about Manchester, Bury, and Bolton notice has been given that the colliers' wages will be advanced from the 1st inst. It is said that this increase, added to that which took place a few weeks ago, will raise the pay of miners 20 per cent higher than it has ever been before.

ALTHOUGH IN ENGLAND only about 3000 cripples are born as such in the year, so many infants become so through neglect and penury, that it is estimated that the floating population of cripples in England is 100,000, of whom 39,000 at least are girls.

MR. DALE, the gardener of the Middle Temple, in February, 1865, obtained and deposited in the little pond in the Temple gardens a small quantity of salmon ova; and so well has this thriven that now a really considerable number of salmon fry, some of them 8 in. long, may be seen sporting in the waters of the fountain.

GENERAL PEEL, it is currently rumoured, has it in contemplation to make considerable alterations in the War Office. The grievances of the several classes of clerks in the office, more particularly that of the so-called "temporary" clerks (many of whom have from ten to fourteen years' service) will be taken into consideration.

MR. JOHN TORR, of Liverpool, has presented £2500 to the port of Hull towards the cost of a home for the orphans of the seamen of the port, and, if there is accommodation, to other orphans of the town. The cost of the building and furnishing has been defrayed, and an endowment fund of £7000 provided. The ceremony of opening the Home was performed on Wednesday week by the Archibishop of York.

THE NEW ROOMS OF THE CAMBRIDGE UNION SOCIETY were opened on Tuesday with some formality. The Earl of Powis, Lord High Steward of the University, was in the chair, and Lord Houghton delivered an able and interesting address, which was listened to with the utmost attention. In the evening there was a debate in which many of the University men took part.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased, on the recommendation of Lord Derby to grant to Dr. Arthur Hill Hassall, the eminent physician and analyst, a pension from the Civil List, in recognition of his public services.

SIR ROUNDELL PALMER, on Wednesday, laid the foundation-stone of new schools in connection with St. Thomas's Church, Hemingford-road. At a collation subsequently he made a speech, in which he insisted on the necessity of all education partaking of a religious character.

THE SULTAN and the new Hospodar of the Danubian Principalities appear to have quite made up their initial difficulties. Prince Charles has been presented by the Sultan with a sabre, studded with brilliants.

MR. THOMAS PHINN, Q.C., died suddenly, on Wednesday evening, at his residence in Pall-mall. The learned gentleman was called to the Bar in 1840, and long enjoyed an excellent practice on the Western Circuit. He was for some time M.P. for Bath, Recorder of Devonport and Plymouth, Judge-Advocate of the Fleet, and Counsel to the Admiralty, having previously held the office of Secretary to the Admiralty.

A LINE OF STEAM-CARRIAGES FOR COMMON ROADS, the experiments with which have succeeded so well between Nantes and Paris, is about to be established from Marseilles to Aubagne, a small town situated sixteen kilometres (ten miles) off. There are to be three departures daily from each end, and the price of the return-ticket will be only 1f. 20c.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY says that since the 27th of July the cable between Ireland and Newfoundland has been in efficient and improving condition, transmitting messages with extraordinary speed and perfect regularity, and with a power far in excess of the present or probable requirements of the public.

ANOTHER ABDICATION OF ROYALTY is talked of—that of King Victor Emmanuel, whose health is said to be such as to inspire great uneasiness, and who, moreover, is known to be most anxious to avoid being forced into an attack upon Rome, and thus incurring the nominal excommunication that would necessarily follow. It is thought not improbable that he may abdicate in favour of Prince Humbert, who is in the hands of the advanced party.

OSCAR BECKER, the young Radical who, five years ago, attempted the life of the King of Prussia, has been pardoned by the Grand Duke of Baden, on whose territory the deed was committed and punished. The King of Prussia interceded for him at the instance of a near relative.

IRONWORKERS' UNION.—At the ironworkers' conference, at Wednesday, it has been decided that henceforth there be only one union, one executive, and one code of rules for England, Scotland, and Wales. It was further decided, on Tuesday, that the executive offices should be established at Derby. Mr. Kane was nominated president, and John Millington, of the north, and William Hodson of the south, for the office of secretary. It was resolved to support the men out on strike, and deputations were appointed to wait on the trades throughout the country.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—On Tuesday evening, upon the invitation of the Lord Mayor, the most prominent gentlemen connected with the Atlantic Telegraph enterprise were entertained at a grand banquet at the Mansion House. Unfortunately, his Lordship was prevented from presiding in consequence of indisposition, but his place was filled by the senior alderman, Mr. Alderman Copeland. The Government were represented by Lord Cranbourne, Secretary of State for India, who made a speech in reply to the toast of the House of Commons. In connection with the Atlantic Cable, speeches were delivered by the Right Hon. James Stuart Wortley, Sir Samuel Canning, Sir James Anderson, and other gentlemen who have taken a prominent part in connection with the matter. The proceedings did not terminate until a late hour.

GREAT FIRE IN QUEBEC.—On the night of the 14th of October and morning of the 15th a terrible fire occurred in Quebec. It began in a grocer's shop in St. Joseph-street, and the wind, which blew strongly from the east, and the delay in getting out the fire brigade and procuring a supply of water, gave the fire great headway. The entire district west of Crown street, to the St. Sauveur toll-gate, a distance of a mile, was destroyed by the fire. Seventeen churches and convents and 2000 houses were destroyed, and 20,000 people are rendered homeless. The aggregate damage done is estimated from 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 dollars. Four persons were killed and several injured. The conflagration ceased at five o'clock in the afternoon, nothing being left in the burnt district to feed the flames. A public meeting has been called in Quebec to raise money to aid the sufferers.

THE NEW LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.—Sir Hugh McCalmon Cairns has accepted the vacant post of Lord Justice of Appeal. The new Lord Justice, the second son of the late William Cairns, Esq., of Cultra, in the county of Down, was born in 1819. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he distinguished himself by obtaining a first class in classics, as well as other honours. He was called to the Bar in 1844, and soon attained a leading position as a junior Chancery barrister. In 1852 he was elected member for Belfast by one of the largest majorities ever known in that important borough. In 1856 he was made a Queen's Counsel and a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn, and in 1858 was appointed Solicitor-General under Lord Derby, receiving the honour of knighthood, and held office until the fall of the Ministry, in the following year. On the recent accession of Lord Derby to office he was appointed Attorney-General. Of his legal attainments and power as an advocate it is needless to speak, his merits having been so long recognised with respect and admiration by the public. As an orator and sound debater in the House of Commons he is almost unsurpassed, and he always commanded the rapt attention of the House. As a legislator he has made valuable contributions to the Statute Book. Sir Hugh combines in the highest degree the various qualities which should make the perfect judge, and his appointment must be considered a matter for congratulation by suitors and the legal profession. Sir Hugh is succeeded in the post of Attorney-General by Mr. John Rolt, M.P., who is the second son of the late James Rolt, Esq., of Calcutta, and was born in 1804. He was called to the Bar in 1837, and in 1846 was made a Queen's Counsel and a Bencher of the Inner Temple. In 1857 he was elected member for West Gloucestershire, which he has since represented in Parliament. The appointment of Mr. Rolt as Attorney-General must be regarded as a fitting tribute to his long-acknowledged legal ability and eloquence, and will be received with satisfaction by all who are interested in the recognition of established worth. Mr. Rolt has been the means of passing several measures of utility in the House of Commons, and his talents will, we do not doubt, be found of great service to the party of which he is a member. It is probable that he would have been appointed Solicitor-General on the accession of Lord Derby to office had it not been desirable that one of the law officers of the Crown should belong to the common law bar; and we are in a position to state that it was understood, on the appointment of Sir William Bovill as Solicitor-General, that he should retain that office in the event of Sir Hugh Cairns vacating the post of Attorney-General, and that Mr. Rolt, who is Sir William's senior in the profession, should succeed to the higher office.—*Law Journal*.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. The secretary having read the minutes of the previous meeting, a reward of £10 was granted to the crew of the institution's life-boat, the Sir George Bowles, stationed at Howth, for putting off during a strong gale of wind from the S.E., and heavy sea, and rescuing the crew of seven men and a boy from the smack Favorite, of Peel, Isle of Man, which had gone ashore off Baldoyle, two or three miles from Howth, on the 17th ult. A reward of £18s. was likewise voted to the crew of the Civil Service life-boat of the institution at Wexford for going off during stormy weather to the barque Voluna, of Liverpool, which had gone ashore on the Long Bank. They found the vessel abandoned, but the life-boat succeeded in saving a coastguard officer and four of his men who had just boarded the wreck, and whose boat had been lost while doing so. Rewards amounting to £38 were also voted to pay the expenses of the life-boats of the institution stationed at Appledore, Wexford, and Broughty Ferry (Dundee), for various services during the past month. The silver medal of the institution was voted to Mr. Bartholomew Stephenson, of Bonlamer, Northumberland, in acknowledgment of his general gallant services in the Boulmer life-boat, of which he had been the coxswain for many years past. The silver medal of the institution and £2 were also voted to Mr. T. Jones, master of the steam-tug Ely, and £8 to his crew; and the thanks of the institution to Mr. Nicol, tide surveyor, in admiration of their noble and skilful conduct in saving nine men from the sloop Wool Packet, of Dartmouth, which, during a gale of wind, was wrecked on Bideford Bar a few weeks ago. Various other rewards were also voted to the crews of shore-boats for saving life from shipwreck on our coasts. During the past month a legacy of £50 had been received by the institution, through its Newcastle branch, from the executors of the late Mrs. E. Neilson, of Newcastle, in the county of Durham. Miss Ellen Goodman, of Eversholt, Bedfordshire, had also left the institution a legacy of £600, to pay for a life-boat, its equipment, and transporting-carriage. New life-boats had been sent during the same period to Lossiemouth, N.B., and to Burnham, near Bridgewater. The Lossiemouth life-boat, which was presented to the institution by the Bristol Histrionic Club, was exhibited in Bristol on the way to her station. The several railway companies, as usual, kindly gave the boats a free conveyance to their destinations. Payments amounting to £2100 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. The thanks of the institution illuminated on vellum were ordered to be presented, on their retirement from office, to A. A. Ranken, Esq.; Arthur Owen, jun., Esq.; Henry Rodd, Esq.; and J. Kearney White, Esq., in acknowledgment of their valuable co-operation in the management of the Glasgow, Teignmouth, Tees Bay, and Valentia life-boat branches of the institution. Richard Thornton West, Esq., and Mr. West had given to the institution the whole cost of the life-boat station about to be formed near West Wittering, on the Sussex coast. The meeting passed a very cordial vote of condolence to the family of the late Dean of Norwich, who had been for many years past a most zealous and valuable coadjutor of the institution on the Norfolk coast. Reports were read from Captain Ward, R.N., the Robertson, R.N., its assistant-inspector, on their recent visits to different life-boat stations on the English and Irish coasts. The proceedings then terminated.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

It is reported in London that Mr. George Lort Phillips, the member for Pembrokeshire, is dead. Mr. Phillips a year or so ago was thrown from his horse whilst hunting, and never recovered from the effects of the fall. He was in the House once or twice last Session, but was not well. Mr. Phillips was a Conservative. Pembrokeshire has never returned a Liberal, and there has been only one contest there since the passing of the Reform Bill. The Pembroke district of boroughs—comprising Milford, Pembroke, Tenby, and Weston—has since then twice returned a Liberal. But we must not suppose that the people are so loyally Conservative as these facts would seem to indicate; they are not loyal to any principles, but simply to their landlords. Here is a curious fact proving this:—In 1860 Sir John Owen, the member for Pembroke district, died. He was a Conservative, and had represented the Pembroke District many years. His son, Sir Hugh Owen, offered himself as a candidate. Now, Sir Hugh is a Liberal; but, nevertheless, the pliant voters returned him by 342 against 257. A Mr. Thomas Meyrick, a Conservative, knowing that the Pembroke District had always returned Conservatives, confidently expected that he should win. But he had to learn that principles go for nothing in Pembrokeshire. Whether he be Whig, Tory, or Radical, the constituency always returns an Owen, or, failing an Owen, the nominee of one. This reminds me of an event which occurred about forty years ago, when I was inspector at a poll-booth in the county of Blank. An old farmer came up to vote. After the usual preliminaries had been gone through the poll-clerk said, "There are three candidates—the Marquis of S., Sir John O., and Mr. P. Which do you vote for?" "I vot for the Duke," he replied. "The Duke is not a candidate." "Well," said the farmer, "I know nuthing about that; all I know is, I'm to vot for the Duke, and I wun't vot for nubbey else." He was ordered to retire; but just as he was going the Duke's agent, whom he knew, got hold of him; and, after a short conference, he came and again presented himself, and thus addressed the polling-clerk, "Young man, didn't you say something about the Marcus?" The poll-clerk then repeated the formula. "Well," said the voter, "put me down for the Marcus. It's all the same." It is asserted at the Clubs that Captain Charles White, the victor at Tipperary, is dangerously ill; but I can get no trustworthy authority for the report.

Mr. Kavanagh and Mr. Hennessy, both Conservatives, are still in the field for the county of Wexford, and both seem determined to go to the poll. If they should stick to their resolution Colonel Luke White will, one would think, be returned without difficulty—that is, if he stands; but that, it seems, is doubtful, the Catholic clergy having been too thoroughly committed to Mr. Hennessy to be resolute from their promises. Mr. Kavanagh is a wonder. He has no legs—at least, none that he can walk with. He has no arms, only stumps, and yet he can write well, shoot well, and go across the country like a very Nimrod. Not being able, without legs, to sit on his horse as other men do, he is strapped to the saddle. It is strange that such a man should wish to get into Parliament. But what will not ambition force a man to do? If he should succeed he must, of course, wheel himself or be wheeled about in a chair. One can hardly perceive how, without arms, he can wheel himself about; and, certes, no servant will be allowed to pass the door. Still he may be able to wheel himself about, as the late Colonel Powell used to do. To a man like Mr. Kavanagh, who though so grievously maimed, can bring down his bird and get in at the death of a fox, nothing would seem to be impossible. But, unless a special rule be made for him, he will not be able to wheel himself into the body of the House.

Some time ago, in allusion to the case of Governor Eyre, I called the attention of the readers of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES to the fact that in 1802 a Governor Wall was executed at the Old Bailey for the murder of Sergeant Armstrong in the island of Goree, in Africa. I had not then read the report of the trial. Lately, however, I have read it at length, in Howell's "State Trials," and now propose to give you an outline of the charge against Wall. John Joseph Wall was Governor of Goree and commanding officer of the garrison there. In 1782 there was some discontent among the soldiers; they had been put upon short rations, owing to the scarcity of food. It was the custom then when the men were put upon short rations to give them pecuniary compensation. In the month of July it became known that the Governor was about to leave the island, and to take with him the paymaster of the garrison, one Deering; and, as the men had not received their compensation money, and had heard that it would not be paid, before the departure of the Governor and the paymaster some twenty, thirty, or forty assembled together and went to the paymaster to demand payment. This was construed by the Governor as an act of mutiny; and, in the evening of the same day, the drum beat the "long roll," calling the men to parade. The men assembled, and, after some conversation between the Governor and his officers, Sergeant Armstrong was seized, tied to a gun-carriage, and was flogged with a rope an inch thick, the flogging being done by negroes and the lashes numbering 800. The Governor left the island on the following day; the man died some four or five days afterwards. On the arrival of the Governor in England he was charged with the murder of Armstrong and was put under arrest, but escaped, went abroad, and lived out of England for twenty years. In 1802, thinking, probably, that the affair had blown over, he returned. But he soon found that he was mistaken. He was promptly arrested, indicted, prosecuted by the Attorney-General, Mr. (afterwards Lord) Ellenborough, convicted, and hanged. This is the notable case of Governor Wall.

And now let me run a parallel between this case and that of Governor Eyre. In 1782 news came to England that a man named Armstrong had been flogged to death unrighteously at Goree by Governor Wall. In 1865 news came to England that at Jamaica a man named Gordon had been hanged by Governor Eyre. A Royal Commission has since reported that he was hanged without sufficient evidence, and, consequently, unrighteously hanged. The Governor of Goree pleaded necessity—there was a mutiny; it was necessary to flog Armstrong thus severely to suppress the mutiny and strike terror in the mutineers. Governor Eyre pleads that there was a rebellion, and that it was necessary to hang Gordon to suppress it and to terrify the rebels. Governor Wall declared that Armstrong was condemned by a court-martial. Governor Eyre pleads also that Gordon was condemned by a similar court. There were doubts about the legality of Governor Wall's court-martial. There are doubts about the legality of the proceedings of the court-martial which condemned Gordon. Here the parallel cannot be pushed further. Wall was indicted by the Attorney-General. In the case of Eyre the Government refuses to prosecute. Wall was generally execrated for the deed which he had done. Eyre is feted and applauded by peers, philosophers, poets, and parsons. And now I must leave this subject. If you could afford the space I should like to say much more about the trial of Wall; but you cannot. Let me not, however, be misunderstood. God forbid that I should wish to see Eyre hanged; but, with the precedent before us, surely he ought to be tried. Eyre and his friends assert that he was justified in what he did. There was a rebellion; it was necessary to hang Gordon as the chief rebel. Wall said there was a mutiny, and it was necessary to flog thus severely Armstrong, the chief mutineer. "Well," said the Attorney-General, "it might have been so; but you must prove all this to the satisfaction of the jury." And so the Committee appointed to prosecute Eyre say, "You plead necessity; we do not bar that plea; nay, we allow that it is a legitimate plea; but, as Attorney-General Ellenborough and Judge Macdonald said in Wall's case, so we say in this case—you must prove the soundness of your plea to the satisfaction of a jury."

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

In noticing, Mr. Editor, a volume of "poetry" of varying merit last week, I said something about want of precision in the presentation of images; and, for want of space (being desirous not to fatigue the reader), omitted to add a word of comment which is very much needed. Sir, you must have noticed, as we all have,

that any demand for the accurate presentation of images in poetry or oratory is immediately treated as "prosaic criticism" by those, and those only, who think more of show-work and spluttering compliment than of the dignity and purity of literature. The charge of prosaic criticism is founded on a misapprehension. Indefiniteness of *outline* may be a condition of sublimity, as Burke long ago told us; and also of beauty, though Burke did not tell us that, except by the implications of what he says of infinite fluent sinuosity in the lines of beauty—say on a beautiful bust, which is the example he selects. But, though indefiniteness of outline is more than permitted, is often desirable, indefiniteness of *relation*, answering to contradiction or distortion, is not permitted either in prose or verse. An image may excite wonder, but it must not suggest a puzzle. In other words, though nothing is more remote from poetry than logic, the image must be able to bear translation into terms of dialectic. Nobody does, in fact, attempt such translation, except when the poet has, by false touches, set the mind upon the wrong tack and given it a logical task to perform. Such a couplet (I quote from memory) as

The aged oak is withered
Which grew from every heart,

is a case not simply for condemnation, it is an outrage, and justifies as near an approach to invective as can be got within the amenities of a pursuit which softens the manners nor permits them to be fierce. Nor are these matters upon which critics differ. Reviewers may differ; but critics—i.e., the men who are devoted to books—have never had two opinions on such matters.

In the *Cornhill* there are some prominent verses, called "In a Gondola," about which I have not time to make up my mind just now; they require a whole day's scrutiny; but it is so rare to find poetry at all in the *Cornhill* that one always mentions it when it happens. But the glory of this number of the *Cornhill* is the article headed "On the Cornice," one of the most wonderful papers I have ever read; wonderful for three things, among others—1st, power of picturesqure reproduction; 2nd, poetic sensibility; 3rd, adjustment of the phraseology to speculative necessities. "Good Society in Vienna" gives, one supposes, a true, and certainly a carefully balanced, account of a very disgusting state of things. What is the good of such people? They are as inscrutably ugly as the crawling creatures one discovers in a mush of black slime after lifting up a log of wood in a damp, rotting corner away from the sun. "The Village on the Cliff" is again very good; scarcely so strong, perhaps, as the last instalment. In "The Claverings" Mr. Trollope is committing a fatal mistake, what with his own moralising (which are founded on wholly discordant moral assumptions) and what with the way in which his people behave themselves; there is not a creature in the story with whom one feels much sympathy, except the two upon whom the author hardly means it to fall—namely, Lady Ongar and Henry Clavering. As for the Bensons, they are muffs, without half-a-pound of self-respect among the lot of them. In other particulars the story has all the usual merit of Mr. Trollope's writing.

For a reason of humanity I give an indifferent magazine a prominent position this month. The *St. James's*, in giving a brief memoir of Alexander Somerville ("One who has Whistled at the Plough"), makes a strong and just appeal in his behalf, now that he lies, poor and neglected, in a Canadian hospital. Mr. Editor, I am sure you will second the appeal. Lovers of freedom and eaters of untaxed bread owe a great deal to this man, who, as a soldier, once received 200 lashes, which were inflicted from a motive of political spite.

With the number now before me the second volume of the *Argosy* is completed. "Griffith Gaunt" is concluded; but that will be noticed by-and-by in another column. The other contents of the magazine are varied and bright, as usual. There is poetry by Mr. Buchanan; and there are short stories and sketches by Mr. George Macdonald, and others, which are very good. "Mrs. Lawrie's Little Dinner-party, and why it failed" is a capital specimen of a kind of article which is very difficult to write without descending to cockneyisms. One, at least, of the illustrations is very nice, and the general result is unique in magazine literature.

Here, Mr. Editor, is the OTHER *Belgravian*, in which I find the following notice:—

This work (*Belgravian: a Magazine of Fashion and Amusement*) was projected in the year 1863, and formally registered by the proprietors in the books of Stationers' Hall in the month of October of that year. Another monthly publication, which was not registered until June of the present year, has assumed the same title. The matter is about to come before the Court of Chancery.

Upon my word, I don't see the force of all this. How can there be any copyright in the word "Belgravian"? People will be claiming copyright in conjunctions before long. Of course there may be more behind the scenes in these cases; but people's ideas of copyright in title seem to me very funny. Mr. Lewes, I am told, was called upon to give up the title "Varia" for the papers he now calls "Causeries" because a book had been advertised with that title. What next? I will bet anything you like that the same title has been already used a hundred times. There is a law, called the "letter of the title," which applies to these matters; and I should think it is, like restrictive laws of most kinds, a very absurd law. Have these precious Belgravians looked it up? Well, this Dromio contains some nice, amusing matter; and "The Holcroft Charity Basket" is very good indeed.

THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Wilkie Collins's "Frozen Deep," which was written for an amateur company, and privately performed at Mr. Charles Dickens's house in 1857, was produced at the OLYMPIC on Saturday last with an efficient cast. The story is very simple, and the piece depends rather upon its dialogue than upon its incidents for success. The plot is to the following effect:—Richard Wardour and Frank Aldersley are in love with Clara Vernon. Clara has given some little encouragement to the former, and has formally engaged herself to the latter. Wardour determines to kill his adversary if ever they should meet and they meet on board the Wanderer, which, in company with the Sea Mew, is engaged in Arctic exploration. Wardour, however, only discovers his rival's identity with Frank after their arrival in the Arctic regions, and, on making the discovery, he determines to kill him. A party is dispatched from their huts to find a way to the nearest fur settlement, and Wardour, with Frank Aldersley, joins it. They are, however, separated from their party, and given up for lost. The crews of the Wanderer and Sea Mew reach Newfoundland in safety, and there they find all the ladies of their party assembled to meet them. Curiously enough, Wardour turns up also in Newfoundland, but in so ragged a condition that he is not at first recognised by his brother officers. Eventually, he is identified by Lieutenant Crayford, of the Sea Mew, and charged with the murder of Aldersley, which he rebuts by producing that unfortunate young man whom he has saved, by dint of excessive care, from perishing by cold and hunger. Wardour, having restored Aldersley to the arms of Clara, dies in great agony, to the apparent relief of all parties concerned. The piece is exactly the sort of piece that might be expected of a clever novelist who is unaccustomed to write for the stage. It is exceedingly well written, from a literary point of view, but it is woefully deficient in action; and the long-winded speeches and oft-repeated histories that occur throughout the drama indicate a clumsiness of construction which was evidently noticed by the audience. It is, however, capitally acted; especially by Mr. H. J. Montague (Frank Aldersley), Mr. Neville (Richard Wardour), Miss Foote (Clara), and Mrs. St. Henry (Lucy). To my thinking, Mr. Neville somewhat exaggerates the *brusquerie* of Wardour; he makes him an intolerable bore, whose society would not be endured under any circumstances by his comrades. Mr. Montague made a finished picture of the starving Aldersley—so much so, indeed, as to be quite painful in its truthfulness. The part of a ship's cook, John Want, played by Mr. Dominick Murray, might with propriety be cut out. It is true that it is the only comic part in the piece, but fun that is derived from a miserable, discontented wretch, who confines his humour to a detailed account of his method of curing sea-sickness, and prophesying the speedy death of all his comrades, is rather too gloomy, not to say disgusting, in its

nature, to render it valuable to the piece. The piece should conclude with the admirably conceived situation in which Wardour produces the man he is suspected of having murdered; all that follows this is in the nature of an anti-climax.

A four-act comedy, "A Dangerous Friend" (adapted, I find, from "La Tentation," of M. Octave Feuillet, by Mr. Oxenford), was produced at the HAYMARKET on Wednesday last. The plot is simple, and is as follows:—Sir Charles Lethaby and Mr. Angus Mandeville are endeavouring to seduce Lady Livingston. She rejects the former, but, to some extent, encourages the latter, and so causes an estrangement between herself and her husband. This is the plot. The underplot consists of Mr. Samuel Handiman's undeveloped love for Amelia Livingston, and Amelia's unblushing proposal to Mr. Samuel Handiman. This is spun elaborately over four long acts, lasting three hours and a half. It is full of glaring absurdities, there is no attempt at development of character, and the only incidents in the piece worth recording are the almost simultaneous proposals made by the two scamps to Lady Livingston to run away from an excellent though tedious husband. Mr. Charles Mathews rattled through the part of Mr. Samuel Handiman with his usual volubility, but he really had no opportunity of doing anything with the character. Mrs. Charles Mathews played the semi-guilty wife carefully, but failed to reclaim it from the extremely unpleasant character bestowed upon it by its author. Thus, Nelly Moore, as Amelia, found herself in a part wholly unworthy of her remarkable ability. The part is simply that of an *ingenue*, and Miss Moore deserves something better. Mr. Howe played the injured husband, Sir Launcelot Livingston, with manly dignity. The piece served to introduce a Mr. Kendal to the London public. This gentleman has a good face and figure, and, save that he is rather stagey and conventional, played Angus Mandeville, the more favoured seducer, very satisfactorily. He should remember, however, that a young fellow staying at a Devonshire inn, in an obscure village, does not usually dress in a tall hat, patent leather boots, and light kid gloves, at ten in the morning. And the adapter should remember that scarlet hunting-coats are inconsistent with summer foliage and muslin morning dresses. The piece was favourably received, and the adapter bowed his acknowledgments from his box.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AT GLASGOW.

On Thursday, Oct. 18, the Duke of Edinburgh received the freedom of the city of Glasgow in the City Hall, where his Royal Highness expressed the interest he felt in such commercial enterprises as those in which Glasgow was engaged, dwelling especially on ship-building and the progress of steam navigation. His Royal Highness afterwards, in the midst of a heavy rain, inaugurated the statue of the late Prince Consort, "It is," he said, "a very pleasant and grateful duty which has devolved upon me to represent the Queen on the occasion of the inauguration of a statue to the memory of my beloved father in a city known throughout the world, not only for the successful prosecution of manufacturing industry, but also for the origin of some of the most important inventions in the arts which have added to the comforts and resources of mankind. As a son, I feel proud that this industrial capital of Scotland should have placed on permanent record its sense of the value of the labours of the Prince Consort in promoting those arts and sciences which, in their application to industry, contribute so much to the prosperity of manufactures and commerce. I shall not fail to express to the Queen the sentiments of loyalty to her Majesty's gracious person to which you have alluded in your address, and which are confirmed by the lively interest of the people in the proceedings of this day. The Queen will be deeply touched by your expressions of affection and regard for the memory of her lamented consort. I congratulate this city, in the honour of which as a citizen I have a right to feel an interest, on the fact of having one of its principal squares adorned by the art of such a distinguished sculptor as Marochetti; and I believe it will be agreeable to the feelings of the people, as it certainly is to the Queen and Royal family, that you have brought together in close proximity the statues of her Majesty and of the Prince Consort."

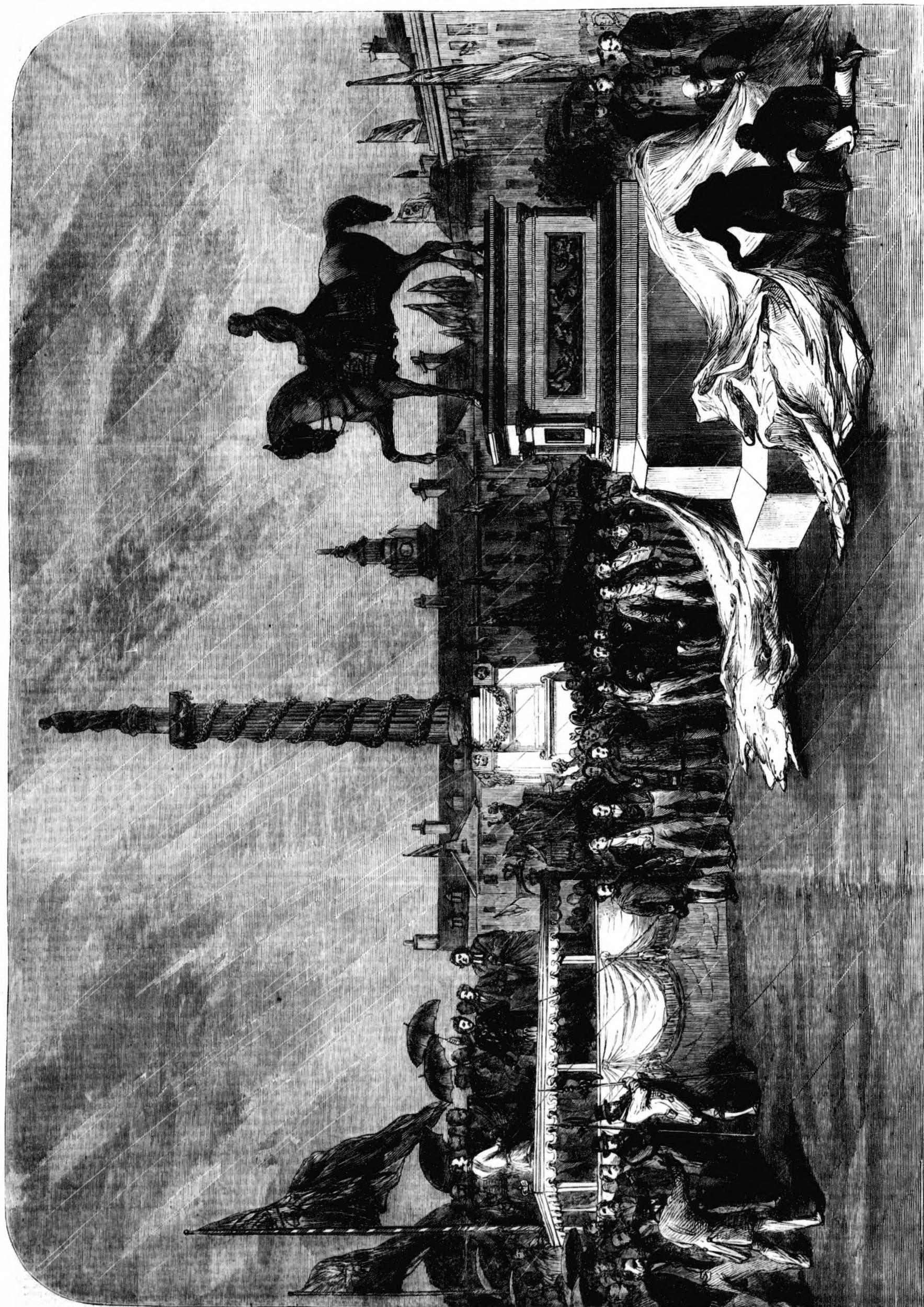
With regard to this work of art, it seems to be generally admitted that an excellent likeness of the late Prince has been secured. His Royal Highness is represented in a military uniform, bestriding a charger, which he reins in with the left hand, while his right, holding a plumed hat, falls in an easy posture by his side. The figure of the horse is designed similarly to that on which the Queen's statue is mounted; the chief difference being that in the new work the animal is thrown into a curveting attitude, with ears turned backwards and neck finely arched. The pedestal on which the statue has been placed consists of a basement of grey granite with superstructure of red granite, the latter having bronze pillars at the corners and a panel of the same material let into each of its four sides. On the panel at the south end are the words, "Albert, Prince Consort," within an ornamental garland and raised border of rich moulding. A corresponding bronze plate at the north end bears the letter "A," surmounted by a crown, and similarly encircled with the other inscription. In the panel on the east side of the pedestal a figure-subject, illustrative of the industrial arts, is introduced. Two central figures, which may be taken to represent education and industry, recline on a locomotive; while at the ends appear personifications of agriculture and commerce. The western panel is filled in with figures emblematic of the fine arts—music, painting, sculpture, and architecture being easily distinguishable. We may add that within the pedestal a bottle has been deposited containing copies of the local newspapers, minutes of the Memorial Committee, and other documents.

The completion of the monument naturally introduced the question of an inauguration ceremony. At first it was hoped that the presence of the Queen might be obtained, but, this being found to be out of the question, the substitution of a Prince of the blood was joyfully welcomed. The Duke of Edinburgh having consented to perform the ceremony, the civic authorities bethought them that the Prince's visit afforded a good opportunity of presenting his Royal Highness with the freedom of the city; and, in consequence of this afterthought, the demonstration assumed larger proportions and excited more general interest than it might otherwise have done.

For some day previously George-square and the adjacent streets had presented a scene of active preparation for the event. The out-of-doors arrangements were carried out under the direction of Mr. Carrick, city architect, assisted, so far as the square was concerned, by Mr. Maclellan, superintendent of public parks. A procession being intended, the streets along which it was to pass were strongly barricaded, and similar precautions were taken for the protection of the square, which was also decorated in a style worthy of the occasion. Private citizens added their share of decoration, and, altogether, a spectacle was produced which deserved more favourable weather for its exhibition. As ill-luck would have it, however, the morning proved dark and lowering, and before the day was far advanced rain began to fall in disagreeable profusion. In spite of this drawback, the streets near George-square wore an unusually animated aspect, and so early as eleven o'clock thousands of people had taken up what they considered favourable positions for viewing the approaching ceremony, which was of a character similar to what usually obtains on like occasions, and was gone through satisfactorily, the interest being sustained until the close.

His Royal Highness, after dining with the Lord Provost, returned to Edinburgh in the evening.

DEATH OF DR. CONQUEST.—The death is reported of Dr. Conquest, the well-known physician. The deceased, who was seventy-seven years of age, was formerly lecturer on midwifery at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He wrote a pamphlet on "The Use and Abuse of Money," the publication of which led to his giving a prize of 100 gs. for the best essay on the subject. This resulted in the publication of "Mammon," by the Rev. Dr. Harris, a work which excited some interest and obtained a large sale. He also published a work, entitled "Outlines of Midwifery," which has passed through six editions in this country, and has been translated into the French, German, and Hindostanee languages. Dr. Conquest was also the author of a revised edition of the Bible, generally known as "The Bible, with 20,000 Emendations."



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH INAUGURATING THE STATUE OF "ALBERT THE GOOD" AT GLASGOW.



ADMINISTERING THE SACRAMENT TO GUY FAWKES AND HIS ASSOCIATES.

THE GUNPOWDER PLOT.

THERE may be very many good reasons why the Gunpowder Plot should "be forgot," in spite of the doggerel rhyme which ushers in its dark anniversary, and yet it would be well if in these times of boasted civil and religious liberty people would take the trouble to read over the real history of the events that led to that sanguinary conspiracy.

The squibs and crackers, as well as the bonfires and the effigies of the 5th of November, have almost lost their real meaning; but the lesson of that terrible time should have a deep significance for us still, and it may not be unprofitable to recall it.

During the latter years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth the Protestant reaction set in. The Catholics were not only forbidden to use the rites and ceremonies of their own faith, but were required to attend the services of a Church which they were bound by their opinions to consider heretical. For refusing, or even neglecting to attend a Protestant church on the Sabbath, they were liable to a penalty for every lunar month during which they absented themselves.

Every priest who said mass, and every person who heard it, was liable to a fine of 100 marks and a year's imprisonment; and, in fine, by a statute of 1585, it was enacted that all seminary Jesuits and other priests should depart out of the realm within forty days after the Session of Parliament, and that all such priests or other religious persons ordained since the same time should not come into England or remain there under pain of suffering death, as in case of treason. It was also enacted that all persons receiving or assisting such priests should be guilty of a capital felony. It is true that these statutes were not at all times enforced; but their very existence placed the whole body of Roman Catholics at the mercy of the Protestant Government, and deprived them of all personal liberty by removing from them the protection of the law.

It was hoped that James I., though himself a Protestant—remembering that he was born of Catholic parents and had been baptized by a Romish Archbishop—would have mitigated these severities and have instituted a degree of religious liberty. For a time it seemed as though these hopes would be realised, and the severity used towards the Papists was so far relaxed that the fines, which had in the last year of Elizabeth amounted to £10,333, fell, in the second year of James, to a little over £200. As soon as the King was securely seated on the throne, however, he declared to his Council that he had never any intention of granting toleration to the Catholics, and that he would execute the laws against them to the utmost.

The criminal trials of that time will too plainly show how this intention was carried out; and how, hopeless, gloomy, and almost desperate, some of the leading men of the Romish party began to brood over their wrongs. Amongst these was Robert Catesby, son of Sir William Catesby, who had several times been imprisoned for recusancy. His ancestor was the favourite Minister of Richard III., and he was proprietor of Ashby St. Leger, Northamptonshire, and of an estate in Warwickshire. It is supposed that Catesby originated the wild but revengeful scheme of the Gunpowder Plot, and that he first disclosed it to John Wright, of the Wrights of Plowland, in Holderness, and Thomas Winter, of the Winters of Haddington, in Worcestershire, both old and respectable landowning families. It would scarcely appear that they had matured any particular scheme, however, for it was agreed that Winter should go over to the Netherlands to meet Velasco, the Constable of Castile, who had arrived at Flanders on his way to England to conclude a peace between James and the King of Spain. The object of Winter's mission was to persuade the Ambassador to solicit his Majesty to revoke the penal laws against the Catholics, and to admit them to the footing of his other subjects; but Velasco gave him no encouragement, and so Winter returned as he had gone, except that he brought with him one of those personages to whom an intense and gloomy fanaticism imparts a courage almost noble in its disregard of personal pain and danger. If anything desperate was to be done, Guido Fawkes was the very man for the purpose; and from the first he seems to have entered into the plot with unwavering and unquestioning earnestness.

This man was the son of Edward Fawkes, a notary at York, who held the office of registrar and advocate of the consistory of the cathedral, and at his father's death inherited a small patrimony, which he spent, and then enlisted as a soldier of fortune in the Spanish army in Flanders. He was present at the capture of Calais in 1588, and in 1603 was joined with Christopher Wright in his embassy from the English Roman Catholics to Philip II. At Ostend he was met by Winter, with whom he returned to England about the end of April, 1604.

Soon after their return to London, Thomas Percy, the relative and steward of the Earl of Northumberland, joined the conspirators; and the five met in a house in Lambeth, where a Romish priest named Gerard awaited them. Here they took the following oath of secrecy, each kneeling with his hands placed upon the Primer:—

"You swear by the Blessed Trinity and by the Sacrament you now propose to receive never to disclose, directly or indirectly, by word or circumstance, the matter that shall be proposed to you to keep secret, nor desist from the execution thereof, until the rest shall give you leave."

They then heard mass and received the sacrament from Father Gerard in confirmation of their vow. Eleven others afterwards joined the conspirators—notably, the brother of Wright, the brother of Winter, Bates, and Tresham. The first step was taken by Thomas Percy, who hired a house adjoining the building where the Parliament met, but the execution of the plot mainly devolved on Fawkes. It was he who, under the assumed name of Johnson, received the keys and kept possession of the house for his pretended master, Percy. A mine was to be made from the cellar through the wall of the Parliament House adjoining; it was Fawkes who was dispatched to Flanders, shortly before Easter, 1605, to secure the co-operation of Sir William Stanley and Captain Owen, who held military command there; and, finally, it was he who undertook to fire the mine when Parliament should have assembled on Nov. 5. Provisions were laid in the cellar of the house, and the conspirators worked constantly at the mine. Once they thought they heard a bell tolling in the ground beneath the Parliament House, and then a rumbling noise sounded over their heads, which occasioned them great alarm, until Fawkes, going out, discovered that it was caused by a dealer in coal, who rented a cellar beneath the House of Lords and was removing his stock. This changed their plans, the cellar was hired and the mine abandoned, and thirty-six barrels of gunpowder which were waiting in a house on the opposite side of the river were brought in. Large stones and bars of iron were placed on them to increase the destructive effects of the explosion, and the whole was carefully covered up with faggots of wood. These preparations were completed in May, 1605, and the confederates separated until Oct. 3, when Parliament was to meet. It was, however, prorogued until Nov. 5, on which day Sir Everard Digby, who had joined the plot, was to assemble his Catholic friends on Dunsmore-heath, in Warwickshire, as if for a hunting-party. Everything was in readiness for the completion of the project. The proposed successor to James was Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I., seeing that Prince Henry would probably perish with the King in the House of Lords. The fatal day approached, but dissensions had already arisen amongst the conspirators with respect to giving warning to particular friends to absent themselves from Parliament.

Catesby firmly opposed this. But it may be supposed that the others pursued that course; and the discovery of the plot is generally attributed to Tresham, who remained in London after the affair was discovered and the other conspirators had fled. The wonderful sagacity of King James in interpreting the letter received by Lord Monteagle is but the tradition of a piece of adroit court flattery; for there is little doubt that the conspiracy had been discovered days before the King was made acquainted with it. A servant of Lord Monteagle endeavoured to warn the conspirators; but they blindly persisted in their task, and Fawkes continued to visit the vaults daily, even though he knew that his intentions were known. He was a genuine fanatic, and had set his life on this particular hazard. He was arrested on the morning of Nov. 5, as he was stepping out

of the door—having, as he afterwards said, just then ended his work. A watch, slow matches, and touchwood were found upon him, and a dark lantern with a light in it was discovered behind the cellar door. Four other conspirators were killed in defending themselves, and Fawkes declared to Sir Thomas Knevitt, who arrested him, that "if he had happened to be within the house when he took him, he would not have failed to have blown him up, house and all." When examined before the King and Council he displayed astonishing firmness, and boldly avowed, and attempted to justify, the objects of the conspiracy; but, though severely tortured to extort a confession, he obstinately refused to name his accomplices until they were made known to the Government through other channels. He was tried, along with seven of these associates, at Westminster, on Jan. 27, 1606. They were all found guilty, and executed three days later, with all the revolting barbarities then inflicted upon traitors. On Fawkes's arrest, the other conspirators had fled to the rendezvous in Warwickshire, to try to organise an insurrection; but, pursued by the authorities, they were overtaken at the mansion of Holbeach, on the borders of Staffordshire, where Catesby and three others, refusing to surrender, were slain; the remainder taken prisoners in different places, were afterwards brought to London for trial.

MR. BRIGHT IN DUBLIN.

MR. BRIGHT, having accepted the invitation of a number of his political friends and admirers to visit the sister kingdom, was entertained, on Tuesday evening, at a grand banquet in the Rotundo. The O'Donoghue presided; and was supported by Sir John Gray, M.P.; Mr. Fildes, M.P.; Mr. Bagwell, M.P.; Captain White, M.P.; Mr. Lawson, M.P., late Attorney-General for Ireland; Mr. Sullivan, M.P., late Solicitor-General for Ireland; Sir Colman O'Loughlen, M.P.; Serjeant Armstrong, M.P.; Mr. Baring, M.P.; Mr. Tristram Kennedy, M.P.; Dr. O'Brien, Dean of Limerick; Sir D. O'Brien, M.P.; and Mr. Blake, M.P. There were also present several dignitaries and a considerable number of the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church. Covers were laid for 500 persons. Letters were read from Cardinal Cullen, the Archbishop of Cashel, the Bishop of Kerry, the Bishop of Limerick, the Archbishop of Tuam, &c.

"The Health of the Queen," &c., having been drunk, The O'Donoghue proceeded to propose "The People, the true source of political power," and afterwards "Our Guest, John Bright."

Mr. Bright commenced his speech by narrating the circumstances under which this visit to Ireland was paid, showing that it had been in a measure forced upon him. Having paid a tribute to the late Mr. Dillon, he proceeded to speak upon the means by which the condition of the people of Ireland may be improved and their disposition towards England changed. He then combated the theory that the condition of Ireland was prevented from being as satisfactory as that of England or Scotland by some radical defect in the Irish character. With regard to the popular Church in Ireland, no class of men had a deeper interest in a prosperous and numerous community than the priests. There was in Ireland a constant war between the owners and the occupiers of the soil. It was a land in which there was a general sense of wrong—one in which all the principles of the Tory party had been experimented upon, and had failed—failed not only at home but in the enemies it had created for us on another continent. Asking his audience to try with him to discover the causes of this state of things, the hon. gentleman continued:—I shall ask you only to turn your eyes to two points. The first is the Established Church, and the second is the land. The Church may be said to affect the soul and sentiment of the country, and the land the means of living and the comfort of the people. I shall not blame the bishops and clergy of the Established Church. There may be, I doubt not, many amongst them pious and devoted men, who labour to the utmost of their power to do good in the districts which are committed to their charge; but I venture to say that, if all were good and all were pious, it would not, in a national point of view, compensate for the one fatal error of their existence as ministers of an established Protestant Church in Ireland. Every man of them is necessarily in his district a symbol of the supremacy of the few and of subjection by the many of the people; and although the amount of the revenue of the Established Church as a sum payable as a tribute by a whole nation may not be considerable, yet, bear in mind that it is often the galling of the chain that is more tormenting than the weight of it. I believe that the removal of the Established Church would create a new political and social atmosphere in Ireland; that it would be felt by the people that the old things had passed away, and that all things had become new; that the Irishman and his faith was no longer to be condemned in his own country; and that for the first time Irishmen would fully believe that English people and the English Parliament intended to do justice to their country. Now I leave the Church and come to the question of the land. The grand evil in Ireland is this: that the Irish people—the nation—are dispossessed of the soil. What we ought to do is to provide aid for their restoration to it by all measures of justice. Why should you tolerate in Ireland the law of primogeniture? Why should you tolerate the system of entails and long settlements? Why should the object of the law be to accumulate land in great masses in few hands, and to make it almost impossible for persons of small means and tenant farmers to become possessors of land? If you go to other countries—for example, to Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, or to the United States—you will find that in all those countries those laws of which I complain have been abolished, and the land just as free to buy and sell, and hold and cultivate, as any other description of property in the kingdom. No doubt your Landed Estates Court and your Court of Titles Act were good measures, but they were good because they were in the direction that I want to travel further in. I would go further than that, I would deal with the question of absenteeism. I am not going to propose to tax an absentee; but, if my advice were taken, we should have a Parliamentary Commission empowered to buy up the large estates in Ireland belonging to the English nobility, for the purpose of selling them on proper terms to the occupiers of the farms and to the tenantry of Ireland. Now, let me be fairly understood. I am not proposing to take any of their property from them; but I propose this, that a Parliamentary Commission should be empowered to treat for the purchase of these large estates, with a view to selling them out to the tenantry of Ireland. Here are some of them. The present Prime Minister (Lord Derby), the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Fitzwilliam, the Marquis of Hertford, the Marquis of Bath, the Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Devonshire, and many others, have large estates in Ireland. Many of them, I dare say, are just as well managed as any estates in the country; but what you want is to restore to Ireland a middle proprietor of the soil; and I venture to say that, if these estates could be purchased and could be sold out by farm to the tenant occupier in Ireland, it would be infinitely better in a conservative sense than that they should belong to great proprietors living out of the country. I have said that the disease is desperate, and that the remedy must be searching. I assert that the present system of government with regard to the Church and with regard to the land has failed disastrously in Ireland. Under it Ireland has become an object of commiseration to the whole world and a discredit to the United Kingdom of which it forms a part. It is a land of many sorrows. Men fight for supremacy, and call it Protestantism. They fight for evil and bad laws, and they call it acting for the defence of property. Now, are there no good men in Ireland? Of those who are opposed to us in politics are there none who can rise above the level of party? If there be such, I wish my voice might reach to them. I have often asked myself whether patriotism is dead in Ireland. Cannot all the people of Ireland see that the calamities of their country are the creations of the law? And if that be so, just laws only can remove those calamities. If the Irish were united—if your 105 members were for the most part agreed—you might do almost anything you liked, even in the present Parliament; but if you are disunited, then I know not how you can gain anything from a Parliament created as the Imperial Parliament now is. The class that rule will hear your cry, as they have heard it before, and will pay no attention to it. They will see your people leaving your shores, and they will think it no calamity to the country; they know that they have force to suppress insurrection, and therefore you can gain nothing from their tears. Well, what is your hope then? It is in a better Parliament, representing fairly the United Kingdom. The movement which is now in force in England and Scotland is your movement as much as ours. If there were one hundred more members, the representatives of large and free constituencies, then your cry would be heard, and the people would give you that justice which a class have so long denied to you. The great party that is now in power, the Tory party, denies that I have any just cause of complaint in speech delivered the other day in Belfast. There is much said of the enforcement of the law, but there is nothing said about any change or amendment of the law. With the English party it is the only specific, and they have no confidence in allegiance, except where there is no ability to rebel. I believe that at the root of a general discontent there is, in all countries, a general grievance and a general suffering. The surface of society is not incessantly disturbed without a cause. I recollect in the poem of the greatest of Italian poets he tells us that he saw in a vision the Stygian lake, and standing upon its banks he observed constant commotion that there was on the surface of the pool; and the guide explained it to him thus:—This, too, for certain know, that underneath the waters dwells a multitude whose sighs into these bubbles make the surface heave as thine eye tells thee, wheresoe'er it turns. And so in Ireland, for generations back, the miseries of the people have made them sigh, and found their voice in constant insurrection and disorder. I have said that Ireland is a country of many wrongs and many sorrows. Her past has almost all been in the shadow, her present is full of anxiety and peril. Her future depends upon the power of her people to substitute equality and justice for supremacy, and a generous patriotism for the spirit of faction. In the effort now making in England to create a true representation of the

people you have the deepest interest. The people never wish to suffer and never wish to inflict injustice. They have no sympathy with the wrongdoer, whether in Great Britain or Ireland, and when they are fairly represented in the Imperial Parliament—as I hope they will one day—they will speedily, effectively, and finally answer that old question of the Parliament of Kilkenny, "How comes it to pass that the King has never been richer for Ireland!"

Mr. Kennedy, M.P., proposed "The Health of the Chairman," to which The O'Donoghue responded.

The chairman next proposed the toast of "A Speedy Settlement of the Land Question, on the fundamental principles of property, securing the rights of the tenant and the interests of the landlord;" to which Mr. Bagwell, M.P., responded.

Sir J. Gray, M.P. for Kilkenny, proposed "Civil and Religious Liberty."

THE LOSS OF THE EVENING STAR.

THE following is a statement made by a passenger on board the steam-ship Evening Star, which foundered at sea on the 3rd ult., while on the voyage from New York to New Orleans, when about 250 persons, including a circus and an opera troupe, lost their lives:

"On the 29th easterly winds set in, but not of such strength as to cause a shadow of fear or apprehension. On the contrary, we regarded them with favour, as being the means of stiffening our sails and speeding quicker our good ship on her way. During the prevalence of these easterly winds they were accompanied by heavy swell, which caused the steam-ship to roll very heavily. No anticipation of danger entered the minds of either the crew or passengers, almost all of whom had before passed through the dangers of the western coast, and the much more perilous and treacherous Hatteras. We only regarded the winds and swells as matters of the most ordinary occurrence; nor during the remainder of the day did we receive cause to excite our alarms; the contrary, though, was the fact, for the wind continued to blow with the same force all day, without ever increasing in strength, and did not change a single point until late in the evening, when it became milder and the weather exceedingly pleasant—pleasant so far that up to a late hour the deck presented the full appearance of a gay and fashionable promenade. Many were the lively voices to be heard in converse together on that evening; many and loud and full-hearted and genuine a laugh was to be heard on the distant waters from our light-hearted party. The morning of the 30th broke upon us with everything to bid us good cheer and make us sanguine of our trip; the sea was even smoother and pleasanter than on the day before. Nothing occurred during the day worthy of note further than our constantly congratulating each other on the beauty of the weather, which was really charming; and again was another day spent in pleasure, and in expectation of a continued pleasant journey to be repeated the next day, Oct. 1, when one of the most delightful mornings that could be spent at sea broke upon us, discovering to us Cape Hatteras Light abeam, the sea still smooth, the sun shining brightly, and the weather calm and clearing off. No change during the course of this day, and none during the night, until the morning of the 2nd, which commenced with a fresh breeze from east to south-east, with a heavy swell, increasing about evening to a gale, with heavy swells. Things now began to look threatening, and a change was easily perceptible in the countenances of the passengers, especially the women, many of whom looked anxious, and commenced questioning the captain and officers, who did all in their power to allay their fears. The breeze still freshened; the clouds looked gloomy. Sails were taken in, and all those preparations were made which easily told to the now frightened passengers that their experienced captain was preparing for a serious emergency, for at this moment the most inexperienced eye might easily have foreseen in the lowering clouds which hung all round the heavens and the wild spray which began to dash in deluging torrents over the ship that the storm was coming which was so fearfully to affect the temporal and the eternal existence of every soul on board. About midnight it began to blow a hurricane, with a very ugly cross sea; ship lying in the trough of the sea. The night was dark—fearfully dark—nothing but the most solid and gloomy darkness all round; no view to cheer, nothing to remind the terrified passengers of the deep sea over which they rode but the foam of the spray which came in showers on our decks. At this time the hurricane was so furious and the steam-ship thrown so completely at its mercy that, for the general safety, the captain was obliged to send the women all below and lock them in the cabin. We were now about 240 miles north-east of the Matanilla reef and 180 miles from the land, and from this time until she went down she never changed her position. At three a.m., Oct. 3, we commenced baling the ship from engine-room and after-cabin, at which the women helped with all their might and with all the strength of frenzy and despair. About four a.m. the starboard rudder-chain got out of the sheave, and the wheel-houses were washed overboard. At five a.m. the engine was thoroughly disabled, in spite of the super-human efforts of the chief engineer and his assistants. The increase of water in the ship's hold soon drove the men from their duty by the cargo's shifting aft. The hurricane was all this time blowing with a fury which was fearful, terrific, and appalling in the extreme—so much so, that it might be reasonably expected that the wild force of the storm would exhaust itself, but no such fortune was in store for the ill-fated ship or its doomed living freight. It continued with the same violence, and at last the dreadful and fearful hour arrived when, at about five a.m. the captain went into the cabin and notified the passengers that he had done all in his power, and that the ship would certainly go down. Some of the seamen were at this moment assisting in getting the boats free from the fastenings to the ship, the captain was exhorting the passengers to act coolly, the storm continued to howl in the most fearful and depressing manner, and now came the most thrilling moment of our trying time. The women, shrieking frightfully, rushed on deck in the most frantic manner, tearing their hair, and in many ways acting more like lunatics than beings endowed with reason. Reason at this moment had certainly abdicated its throne, and nothing but the wildest state of madness had the poor beings come to. The men were equally violent, though for such a scene it may have been worse. The women commenced divesting themselves of their clothing, and madly and wildly plunged into the foaming surf, never to rise to its surface more. The captain and crew tried their best to prevent this, but to no avail; despair controlled the poor creatures' actions, and rather than face a lingering death, many of them voluntarily sought that grave which opened with such fearful jaws to receive their mortal all. While those fearful scenes were being enacted, which was about six a.m., the ship took a heavy lurch, settling fast. A heavy sea boarded her, and, with one fearful continued lurch, down she went, and all was over with the Evening Star. One of the last persons to leave the wreck was a young lady belonging to the Italian opera troupe which was on board; she behaved very heroically, waiting until the last and only hope was gone, and then jumped when every hope had failed her. From what I saw and have since learnt, all the boats were capsized when the ship went down. After being in the water among the drift wood, &c., for nearly three hours, one of the ship's life-boats coming near me, I got on board, but was capsized out several times. During this afternoon the sea ran very high, and until the forenoon we were surrounded with immense quantities of drift wood, the wind still blowing a hurricane. At night the wind moderated very much. In this fearful sea I spent some of the most wretched hours of my existence, until ultimately rescued from what appeared to me a certain watery grave; and then, when safe again, I could call to mind the horrors of that dreadful night on board the Evening Star."

Another account says:—

"Out in mid-ocean, companion to the howling tempest, the sea lashed into fury by the wind, which came with the force of some solid substance; there, on a great ship, tossed and buffeted about like a child's toy or bubble on the breeze, what could they hope for in this wild commotion, with only an open row-boat to bear them on? Some, with clasped hands, stood in mute despair, while others raved frantically, and cried out to their companions, 'Oh, save me!'

save me!' The mother was seen to press her child closer, and the husband the wife to his bosom. Others ran from the deck into the saloons, and there bent down in some corner to await the end. A husband (an army officer) was seen with his devoted wife and two small children, all clasped tightly together, and there remained, even when the foaming surge of the angry waves washed through the saloon where they were kneeling, and there, in that last embrace, death claimed the faithful victims. So rapid was the closing scene of this fearful tragedy that two of the ship's boats were never loosed from the davits or moorings on deck, but went down with the ship. Two of them had been cut loose, and efforts made to launch them, but one roll of the ship plunged both with all who were near into the yawning gulf, and the next moment returned them, and shattered the frail barques into atoms against the steamer's side. Another moment and there came a billow, high-crested and furious. The devoted ship but partially lifted her stern. The shock of that wave drove through and through the saloons, and, with a quiver throughout her frame, she settled to starboard, and the Evening Star was gone for ever. This was six o'clock, Wednesday morning, Oct. 3. A few seconds' time was enough to obliterate every appearance that so gallant a ship had gone down with its hundreds of precious souls. Nothing, save some scattered fragments of broken timber, and here and there a few human heads, served to mark the ill-fated spot. Two of the life-boats rested upon the waters, and towards them the eyes of drowning scores were turned. In the midst of the drift stuff, lashed about like demons of destruction, many found their death, as the severe gashes and bad bruises of the survivors bear witness. A piece of the hurricane-deck and pilot-house composed the only additional float on which there was the least prospect of life, and to this frail support clung a woman, in the wildest energy of despair. The dead body of another woman rested lower down, on a portion of the deck—another wave, and both are swept into the deep. The struggle for life is now in earnest, at mid-ocean, in a raging sea, amid a mass of floating drift, that threatens each moment to give each his deathblow. Efforts are made to reach the life-boats, in which some have secured themselves. In one of these were the captain, a lady, five passengers, and four seamen. An upset of the boat, only a few minutes after the great disaster, lost the captain and the lady, Captain Knapp having been stunned by contact with the floating débris. The woman rose out of reach. At length the boats were fairly under way, the one which I described, with nine men, having one oar, a double-handful of bread, a bag, and a life-preserver, without one drop of water, no compass, no sextant, no sail, and at least 200 miles from the coast of Florida; with a mast made of an oar, a canvas bag cut open for a sail which, when spread out, was exactly 20 in. by 26 in.; with a life-preserver cut open to assist as a jib—this was our whole means of navigating the wide expanse before us, and with only a piece of plank for steering purposes. With these scant means of subsistence and locomotion the boat was put before the wind, and, with a few upsets on the crests of the seas, our little barque kept on her way, constantly shipping water in large quantities, which was baled out with our hats, and so to the end. On the same day our bread failed us, and our thirst increased fearfully. It was almost more than could be borne. On the night of the second day (Thursday), in shipping a large sea, we had the good fortune to ship also ten small flying fish—a godsend—which the men most speedily devoured, and much to their relief. On Friday two men died from exhaustion and delirium from drinking large quantities of salt water."

One of the crew has furnished an account of the wreck, from which we make the following extracts:—

"We left New York on Monday morning, with pleasant weather and a prospect of making a quick trip. The next day, about four o'clock in the afternoon, it blew so hard that we took in sail; and I noticed, as the sea rose, the ship worked and strained badly. She soon began to leak, and the water came in from all directions. The pumps were set at work, but gave out. The gale increased, and the paddles and wheel-houses were carried away during the night. I was sent below to keep the water from coming in at the 'dead lights,' and had them stuffed with bedding, ladies' dresses, and everything else we could lay hands on; but every sea that came would turn the ship on her side, and the water would pour in to such an extent that it seemed useless to try to do more. Soon after we were all passing water from the hold in buckets, and several ladies were assisting near me in the line, when the ship gave a terrible lurch, and I thought they would be frightened; but they only asked quietly if we thought the danger great, to which we of course answered in the negative. Those women worked bravely, nobly. A few of the German women gave up in despair; but the American ladies worked on earnestly and bravely, without faltering, till five o'clock in the morning, when the captain came down and told us that the vessel must go down. They had more pluck than many of the men had. When the captain informed all hands that the ship could not hold together long she was a perfect wreck, and floated in the trough of the sea, settling deeper every minute. I was one who went below at this time to wake up all who were in their state-rooms. Several were very sick and did not leave their rooms, going down with the ship. Going on deck soon after, I assisted in cutting away four boats (we had ten life-boats); the others were also cut adrift. We could not launch them in that sea. Suddenly the ship gave a lurch, and before we knew what had happened we were under water. It was so sudden I couldn't realise it. When I came to the surface the water was covered with driftwood, and I managed to get hold of a plank, which sustained me a short time; and by the little daylight we had, the forms of several of the passengers and crew could be seen clinging to planks, timbers, boats upside down, and anything else which assisted in sustaining them above water. After being capsized several times and being badly bruised by the timber floating about, I at last got into the captain's boat, which was supporting eighteen or twenty persons then. A young lady was clinging to her on one side—the only woman I saw alive then out of the eighty or ninety aboard. The boat, being full of water, was turned over several times by the heavy seas, and we all lost our hold on her; but all but one or two regained it. The third time the boat was overturned the young lady lost her hold and sank by my side, almost near enough for me to touch her with my hand, but I could render no assistance. Captain Knapp soon after lost his hold, when we were capsized, and he went down so near me that I could have touched him if every particle of strength I had had not at that moment been taxed to the utmost to preserve my own hold on the boat. During the twenty-four hours following the sinking of the ship our boat capsized no less than nine times, the wind blowing a gale all the time. We finally managed to get into her, though nearly full of water, and, by means of an old felt hat, baled out some of the water. But there we were, fourteen of us, 180 miles from land, without oars, compass, chart, food or drink; sitting in an open boat full of water, every sea breaking over us and threatening to capsize us again. Hitherto we had been floating at the mercy of the waves, but now a man was discovered who had

n floating on a part of the deck, and had managed to get an oar, which had drifted near him. We took him in, and with the oar were enabled to keep our boat a little before the wind, which had now begun to die away. Myself and another man were the only ones who had strength remaining sufficient to attempt to steer her at all, and we were pretty well used up. For four days and nights we were on that open boat; and, though the gale subsided on the second day, a 'nasty sea' rendered our position anything but agreeable, particularly when the sun appeared and its burning rays beat on our bare heads. Our clothing soon dried, and we began to feel stiff, sore, faint, hungry, and entirely exhausted. On the third day two of those in the boat became delirious, and, leaping overboard, sank from our sight. Two others died soon after, and their bodies were brought in with us. We guided our course by the stars, and thought we might possibly reach the coast of Georgia or Florida. The day before yesterday we fell in with a Norwegian barque, and were taken aboard and very kindly treated. She was bound to England; and as we shortly afterward fell in with a vessel bound to Savannah, we were put on board, and arrived there to-day. I don't think the steamer was lost through any lack of seamanship; everything that could be was done to save her."

Literature.

Washed Ashore; or, the Tower of Stormont Bay. By WILLIAM H. G. KINGSTON, Author of "Peter the Whaler," &c. London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.

Mr. Kingston with a new book for boys is not suggestive of much change; but "Washed Ashore" is not precisely of the old pattern. Generally, the leading idea of the modern boys' book is adhered to, and a family likeness preserved. The long and interesting story encourages everything good, and that goodness is always associated with romantic danger and daring. The old people in their age are green and pleasant, and cheer the hearts and encourage the ardour of the young. The young become something rather more than men before they have ceased to be boys, and give promise of becoming the fathers of future heroes who are to shine in the juvenile literature of years to come. These youngsters scorn drawing rooms and prefer taking their dancing lessons with a Polar bear on a desert iceberg. A boy of fifteen is considered good enough to settle any bloodthirsty pirate, and the boy is never so happy as when, bound to a tree, with a set of savages throwing knives at him, he laughs them to be his dying moments. In "Washed Ashore," Mr. Kingston gives a variation of this material, and makes a story which none will lay aside. But he takes occasion to teach something more than the glory of manliness, and teaches it in a style which will not be generally approved. Whenever there is a deed of daring done, or a danger escaped, the sermon is always at hand, and invariably with the true Sunday-school twang. (The boys will laugh at it when they become a little older.) The missionaries are praised, and the savages whom they convert are praised, and, almost as a matter of course, to the disadvantage of any unhappy Europeans who are necessarily not savages, and do not happen to have become missionaries.

Mr. Kingston's actual story is very simple, and need not be detailed. There is a fine old fellow with one leg, and another fine old fellow with one hand. A high-spirited young fellow is rescued from a wreck, and, after performing various prodigies of valour against smugglers, he takes command of an expedition to find another high-spirited young fellow, who is reported to have been cast away somewhere in the Pacific. Of course, he is successful, and marries the sister. Some nicely-drawn wood engravings are in the volume; but the artist does not seem to have thought it necessary to illustrate the text. Charley Blount has a fall of 5 ft. down a precipice, without a cap; but the picture makes the fall at least 15 ft. and, for all we know, 50 ft., and he reappears with his cap, safe and sound, on his head. But the story is a story of adventure, and this incident is by no means the strangest of all.

A Synopsis of Heraldry; or, a Short and Easy Method of acquiring the Art of Blazon. By C. N. ELVIN, M.A., F.G.H.S., Author of a "Handbook of Mottoes," &c. London: Robert Hardwicke. A little knowledge of heraldry is not a dangerous thing, and its study is very interesting. Leisure half-hours might well be devoted to finding out how a lion looks when he is rampant and a griffin when he is segreant—and finding out that they are in precisely the same attitude. Moreover, there is use in "knowing a little of everything;" or, in something like the words of Lord Lytton, "the least superficial men are those who have a superficial knowledge of most things." And so, a little heraldry is desirable, and may be here obtained with perfect ease. It is the best handbook that has appeared, really beginning at the beginning and running on regularly to the end. Memory alone will be wanting to understand the "art of blazon;" and, if memory should fail, the book is so well arranged that reference is easy. Moreover, there are upwards of 400 engravings illustrating the arms of many families; and something else, which must be of greater interest to the author, printer, or publisher, than to the student or the 400 families. This is a "List of Subscribers." What charming pages to run through! How like some of the quarto rubbish of a hundred years ago: a county topography, for instance, with everybody in for one copy, and the knights of the shire for at least half a dozen. In those days it was considered the thing to have "one's name in print," even on such expensive terms, but booksellers will do well not to revive the fashion. Without offending Mr. Elvin or Mr. Hardwicke, we would inquire why, amongst the 400 engravings of arms, those of so unheard of a person as Captain William Bulwer are given, and those of his brother, the celebrated Lord Lytton, are not? But the "List of Subscribers" may answer the question: Lord Lytton does not subscribe, and Captain Bulwer takes two copies.

En Avant, Messieurs! Being a Tutor's Counsel to his Pupils. By the Rev. G. H. D. MATTHIAS, M.A., late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. London: Chapman and Hall.

Mr. Matthias, to judge from his title, is evidently not practised in writing for publication—though he will very likely wonder what this criticism means, if he sees it—but he is well qualified for his task and has produced a very good book. He takes up almost every topic likely to occur to a tutor as a basis for useful advice to adolescents, and writes well about whatever he touches. He attributes, we think, too much to culture, and allows too little to nature; he permits his political and social leanings to colour his page here and there; he never wholly drops the manner of the tutor (as, indeed, why should he?); and he is rather more a man of the world than we quite like. The cast of his mind is sufficiently disclosed in the papers on "Style;" they are very good, but there is not a word about the subject that is not written from the tutor's point of view. About style, as related to the subject, we have plenty; of style, as related to the man—as organic, vital, or vascular—nothing. But the papers are so very good that we have much pleasure in recommending them. A better book of the kind for a father to hand to a boy of seventeen we do not know.

Original Penny Readings. A Series of Short Sketches. By GEORGE MANVILLE FENN. London: Routledge and Sons.

We had occasion, about twelve months ago, to speak in terms of commendation of a little work, entitled "Featherland," by Mr. George Manville Fenn; and we have much pleasure in being again able to indite a word of praise to the same gentleman for the volume of "Original Penny Readings" which he has just published. These little sketches are all excellent, being natural, simple, humorous and pathetic by turns, yet always and in all moods interesting, instructive, and elevating. There is always a good sentiment pervading each sketch, which yet never degenerates into mawkish or mandarin sentimentality. We wish Mr. Fenn's little work a wide circulation, and are sure that for the evening readings in artisans' and rustic club-rooms nothing more appropriate could be selected. We may mention that to the readers of periodicals many of these sketches must be already favourably known, as they have from time to time appeared in the pages of *Chamber's Journal*, *Once a Week*, and among the "Readings by Starlight" of the *Evening Star*.

Heber's Hymns. Illustrated. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

The beautiful hymns written by the genial, gentle, learned, and pious Bishop Heber are treasured, as we are truly told in the prefatory notice to this edition, "wherever the English language is spoken;" and certainly, when illustrated so nicely as in this issue, the verses are doubly valuable and pleasing. A prettier volume, as regards alike the engravings, printing, paper, binding, &c., it is impossible to conceive. Everything is neat, chaste, and in perfect keeping with the subject. We have much pleasure in recommending the book to the notice of our readers, more especially as we learn that the interests of the author's representatives have been duly considered, and that this edition is issued with their sanction and that of the original publisher—Mr. Murray—of this and the other works of the amiable Bishop of Calcutta.

Little Lays for Little Folks. Selected by JOHN G. WATTS. Illustrated. London: Routledge and Sons.

This is another prettily got-up book of poetry for young people. The editor has drawn upon such authors as Bryant, Thomas Miller, Mrs. Hawtrey, Southey, Wordsworth, Jane Taylor, Capern, L. Aikin, Mrs. Alexander, Caroline Bowles, Mrs. Barbauld, &c., for some of their sweetest and most attractive productions; and, with the additions from his own pen, has compiled a book thoroughly "simple in character, sound in moral, and diversified in subject" just such a work, in fact, as he says he desired to produce. So much for the "Lays" themselves. But it is scarcely possible to speak too highly of the dress in which they have been clothed. The illustrations are admirable in design and appropriate in character—are, indeed, truly illustrative of the text; and have been most carefully engraved and tastefully printed. This last point was, of course, secured when the printing was intrusted to Mr. Clay. We should have liked, however, to have some information as to who made the drawings and who executed the engraving, for all is accomplished in the best possible style. The book, in fact, is a perfect little gem.

Guide for Travellers in the Plain and on the Mountain. By CHARLES BONET, Author of "Chamois-hunting in Bavaria," &c. London: Robert Hardwicke.

To some minds "Danger's self may be lure alone;" but, for our part, we like to see something of utility associated with risk—some hope that good will come out of venturesome daring. We have consequently little sympathy with the mountain-climbing mania, which can be productive of no benefit, but has led to sad disasters of late. Still, it is good to be well furnished for even such adventures, if they must needs be undertaken; and pedestrian exercise is always useful and beneficial. We therefore recommend Mr. Bonet's little work to all travellers, either on mountain or plain; for by all it will be found a very useful guide, as it contains much valuable advice which is well worth being "listened to."

Routledge's Every Boy's Annual. An Entertaining Miscellany of Original Literature. Edited by EDMUND ROUTLEDGE. London: Routledge and Sons.

We have on previous occasions noticed "Routledge's Every Boy's Annual" in these columns; and are glad to say that the new volume now before us is an improvement on its predecessors. Mr. Edmund Routledge has done his work admirably, and the result is a book containing the rules of plenty of games, indoor and out; directions for pursuing mechanical occupations; capital stories, adventures, and enterprises; the whole profusely interspersed with well-executed illustrations. In short, just the book every boy will thoroughly appreciate.

Fun. Vol. III., New Series. London: Fun Office.

The third volume of the new series of *Fun*—that is, the third volume produced under the editorship of Mr. Tom Hood—has just been issued; and, in looking over the pages, we cannot help being struck forcibly by the manifest improvement that has been effected in the style, artistic as well as literary, of the publication to what distinguished it in its earlier days. We really have in this volume, as in its two immediate predecessors, a collection of fun which will satisfy the mirth-craving propensities of even the veriest glutton of "that sort of thing, you know." We heartily wish the editor and his collaborators a continued career of success and of that fertility of fancy and aptness of illustration which have distinguished their past efforts.

BIRMINGHAM FREE LIBRARIES.—The Mayor of Birmingham (Mr. Edwin Yates) has laid the foundation-stone of a third district free library, as a part of the system some years since established in that town. His Worship has also opened another of these libraries, and finally inaugurated the "Free Reference Library." This forms the upper room of the Central Free Library, erected under the auspices of Messrs. Martin and Chamberlain, architects, of Birmingham, at a cost of £13,000. It is approached by a broad and handsome stone staircase, at the upper landing of which folding-doors give access to a semicircular room about 60 ft. by 50 ft., lighted from the roof, and divided by columns into "bays," in which are arranged the "presses" for the books. Midway round the room is an ornamental gallery, affording access to the upper tiers of shelves. The whole of the fittings are of oak, and both as regards these and the architectural embellishments, the room is one of the handsomest in the provinces, doing much credit both to the Corporation and the architects. Besides the large room, there are various smaller apartments, one of which is set apart as a Shakespeare Memorial Library, in which are to be arranged all the editions (English and foreign) of the poet's works, together with all the commentaries and other illustrative works to which they have given rise. The general reference library contains 15,000 volumes, purchased at a total cost of £5000. These have been selected on the principle of fairly representing all the principal departments of literature—in theology, philosophy, history, natural history, science, and art. The selections have been made with great care. None but the best works in each department have been purchased; and in numerous instances the committee have not hesitated to buy rare and valuable works, the element of cost having been subordinated to those of fitness and completeness. Owing to the circumstance that the whole of the books have been purchased specially for the library, and this work having been undertaken by persons peculiarly qualified, it has been possible to obtain a collection which, for variety, quality, and fitness in its several departments, cannot easily be matched elsewhere. The credit of this result is mainly due to the zealous and intelligent labours of the successive chairmen of the committee, and especially to Mr. Samuel Timmins, a member of the committee and the editor of the recently-published reports on the industries of the midland hardware district. At the inauguration ceremony an admirable address was delivered by Mr. George Dawson, M.A. Subsequently the Mayor entertained upwards of 150 gentlemen at the Royal Hotel.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. PASSMORE EDWARDS.—On Monday evening about forty gentlemen assembled at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on the occasion of a banquet in honour of Mr. Passmore Edwards, the object being to express an appreciation of the conduct of that gentleman, who, after having been compelled, some years since, to avail himself of a legal release from his debts, "has, by his self-denying labours and economy, recently paid the whole of his creditors or their representatives in full." The chair was taken by Mr. John Hodge, of the firm of Spalding and Hodge, and amongst the company were—Mr. Reed (Chief Constructor of the Navy), Mr. W. Spicer, Mr. King, Mr. John Kaye (vice-chairman), Mr. Newton, Mr. Collingridge, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Benson, Mr. Francis, &c. The chairman, in introducing the name of Mr. Edwards, observed that it was well known by those present that that gentleman had been for many years connected with literature and the press. About fifteen years since Mr. Edwards, acting under the advice of certain friends, amongst whom was Mr. Charles Gilpin, now M.P. for Northampton, started several publications which had a considerable circulation. After the lapse of a few years, however, Mr. Edwards found himself out of his depth, at a time when health and energy were required to sustain him, and the result was that he was compelled to relinquish the struggle. By the advice of some of his friends he gave up all he had to those to whom he had become indebted, receiving from them a release in full discharge of all their claims, accompanied by an expression of their sympathy for what was generally believed to be the result of unavoidable misfortune. After this, for about ten years, he continued to work on, and at length achieved so much success as to enable him to do that which had been the desire of his ambition—viz., to discharge those liabilities which, although legally released from, he nevertheless felt himself bound in honour to pay. Accordingly, not long since, Mr. Edwards paid the whole of his creditors in full, and they were now here to thank him for his honourable conduct, and to present him with a testimonial in the shape of a watch and chain. He cordially begged the company to drink to the health, long life, and prosperity of Mr. Passmore Edwards, and, in conclusion, he handed to that gentleman a gold watch, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to J. Passmore Edwards, Esq., Oct. 29, 1866, by friends who have special and unusual occasion to testify their appreciation of his integrity and uprightness." Mr. Edwards, in acknowledging the compliment, said he had simply done that which—for his own sake and for the sake of society—he considered he was morally bound to do. Instead of his creditors being obliged to him, he had reason to be obliged to them for their kindness in waiting so long. They repaid confidence in him, and he thanked them. It had been remarked to him that, in adopting the course he had thought fit to pursue, he should be one in a million—an observation to which he could only reply that he was sorry, and at the same time surprised, that so few should think proper in after life to pay off their past debts. He appreciated from the bottom of his heart the high compliment which had been paid him, and he was glad to have this opportunity of assuring his friends and well-wishers that he had been actuated by three considerations—first, duty to himself; secondly, duty to his creditors; and, thirdly, duty to society. Other complimentary toasts followed, including "The Health of the Creditors," "The Arts and Sciences," "The Press," &c.

THE VOLUNTEERS IN BELGIUM. Our late visit of the English volunteers to Brussels was one of the most pleasing incidents that has yet occurred in connection with the force. Their reception by the people of Belgium, of all ranks and degrees in life, was cordial in the extreme; and Great Britain, in the persons of her citizen soldiers, has been laid under a debt of gratitude which will require the warmest efforts to be put forth to requite when an opportunity offers. It is impossible for us to chronicle all the events of the sojourn of the volunteers in the Belgian capital, and we must, therefore, confine ourselves to those incidents portrayed in our Engravings.

THE BELGIAN TIR NATIONAL : TORCHLIGHT RECEPTION AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE. Our principal Illustration, that on page 277, depicts the reception of the foreign visitors by torchlight at the Hotel de Ville. This event took place on Thursday, Oct. 11, and is thus described by a correspondent writing on Friday, the 12th:—

"A few of the staff officers and some odd volunteers came over on Tuesday; but it was on Wednesday morning the first body set out. They were conveyed from Dover to Ostend in the Ruby and the Emerald, 23; riflemen being on board. On their arrival at Ostend they were met by the

Bourgmeister, M. Van Leeghem, and the officers of the Garde Civique. The band of this force played the English National Anthem as the steamers came alongside the pier, and the townspeople, who tendered a hundred civilities, and appeared to feel themselves honoured when they were allowed to do any volunteer's service. By the time this large detachment had arrived at Brussels, Lieut.-Col. Lloyd Lindsay, commanding officer of all the volunteers visiting Belgium, who had arrived here, accompanied by Lord Bury and Sir Paul Hunter, had established his headquarters at the Hotel de Belle Vue. From various points on all sides of this building the British flag was displayed; and in the Brigade-Major's office Mr. Bigmore, the Quartermaster, assisted by other gentlemen, was busy making out lists and attending to applications for quarters. Thursday



THE BELGIAN TIR NATIONAL : SHOOTING AT THE GRAND RANGES SPECIALLY RESERVED FOR THE RIFLEMEN.

morning brought fresh and still more numerous arrivals, and even before the main body reached there was scarcely a street in Brussels in which all the uniforms of our volunteer force were not represented. The whole city was on *feete*. Flags hung from almost every house in the principal streets; the Garde Civique were turned out to receive their foreign visitors; and the shrill blast of trumpets and the beating of drums were heard in all quarters. The Garde Civique of Brussels are 6000 strong. They have four legions of infantry, chasseurs, an escadron of cavalry, and an escadron of artillery. The infantry wear blue coats and dark trousers; the cavalry, green coats and scarlet trousers; the shakos and helmets of the men and officers are handsome, and the costumes of the various branches of the force have a striking and agreeable appearance. At

two o'clock the officers of this force, headed by the cavalry band, proceeded to the terminus of the Chemin de Fer du Midi to receive the French riflemen coming to the Tir. These were Gardes Nationaux to the number of 125 men and seventy-one officers. They were on the station to receive them, besides the officers of the Garde Civique, M. Funck, Echevin, of the city and member of the Chamber of Representatives; M. Orts, member and formerly President of the Legislative Chamber. The streets leading to the station were much crowded, and the station itself was completely surrounded with a mass of people. The train containing the French National Guards did not arrive till about half-past three o'clock. When it came up to the Garde Civique, the French National Guards, and the band played "Partant pour la Syrie." On the visitors stepping out of the carriages,

their chef de bataillon, Colonel Deherpe, was addressed by the Echevin, when an interchange of courtesies took place. M. Funck then informed the Colonel that the Garde Civique and the foreign riflemen already arrived would assemble at the Place des Nations at seven in the evening to receive the English volunteers, who were expected to arrive about that time, after which the official reception would take place at the Hotel de Ville. "At eight o'clock, the hour at which the latest telegrams stated the coming men would arrive, the Place des Nations presented an extraordinary appearance. The great square in front of the station was surrounded by the Garde Civique, the French National Guards, and the volunteers who had marched down to await the arrival of their comrades. Inside the monstre ring of riflemen, and stretching far up the Boulevard Botanique, which had stood their ground since half-past six or seven o'clock, never

uttered a murmur, but conducted themselves with the greatest good-humour, and passed various compliments on the volunteers—one of which was that they looked 'so solid.' At length the approach of the long-expected trains was announced by the station-master, and the words 'ils sont arrivés' were passed to the troops outside. The Committee of Reception had scarce formed themselves into a group in the hall of the station when two long trains were drawn up at the platforms, amid a cheer from all the employés of the company, which was taken up by the crowd outside and by them continued almost without intermission till the march to the Hôtel de Ville was commenced. Before the trains had come to a stand one of the bands of the Garde Civique had struck up 'God Save the Queen,' which, of course, raised the enthusiasm of the volunteers to such a pitch that they mingled their acclamations with those which were raised in their own honour. The moment Lord Bury, heading the volunteers, stepped into the hall of the station the committee surrounded him, and the Echevin, addressing the visitors in French, said:—'Gentlemen,—We thank you with all our heart for desiring to celebrate with us the anniversary of our national independence. We are happy to receive among us representatives of the nations which have given to Belgium numerous proofs of their sympathy. The visit with which you honour us will, I hope, have for its result to draw still closer the bonds which unite grateful Belgium to the two great peoples which guaranteed its young nationality. I bid you welcome.'

"Lord Bury thanked the Echevin for the sentiments he had expressed in the name of the city of Brussels, and assured him that the volunteers entertained feelings of the greatest regard for the people of Belgium.

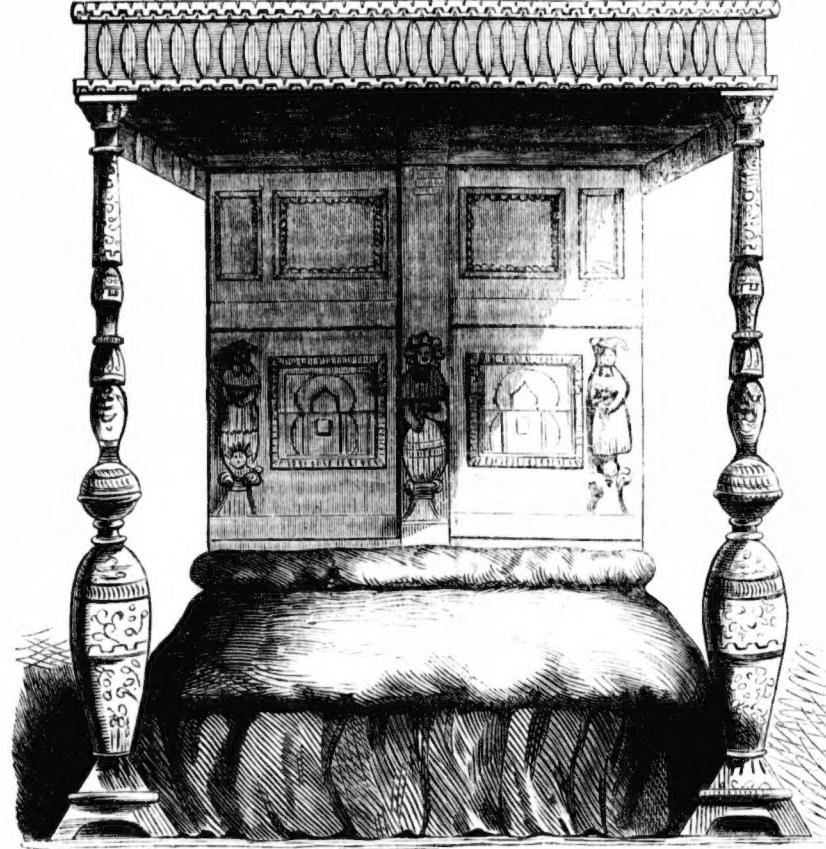
"Then commenced a demonstration, which for grandeur and picturesque effect has not often been equalled on any occasion of a civic festival. For two hours previously the torches had been numerous; but, as the volunteers commenced to pour out from the station, these lights increased a hundredfold in number and brilliancy, as if by magic. At the same moment the double lines of the Garde Civique, who kept a pathway, raised their rifles aloft, and the bayonets shone with singular and surprising brightness; those of their body not under arms rushed forward and shook hands with every volunteer they could seize, and hurrahs for 'les Anglais' were again raised, each cheer sounding louder than the previous one. Mixed up with all this jubilant expression of popular joy was the clanking of the hoofs of officers' chargers, the shouting of the word of command, and the music of some half-dozen bands; but, after a delay of a few minutes in setting the men in order, the procession moved on. First marched a band, and next a battalion of the Garde Civique; next came another band; then followed the committee of reception, followed by all officers, foreigners, and Belgians not charged with commands; next, Les Gardes Nationaux Francaise; then, the volunteers of Great Britain; after them the other foreign riflemen, arranged alphabetically; and, lastly, another battalion of the Garde Civique and another band. Torchbearers at short intervals lined the procession at each side, and these were flanked by a vast body of the citizens. The night was very dark, which was all the better for the effect of the torches, the gas-lamps, and the wonderful illumination of the tower of the Hôtel de Ville. This lofty and gorgeous piece of architecture is in what may be called three open stories. These were illuminated with lights the colours of which were constantly changing. The illumination was on the plan generally known as the 'blue fire' when used in theatres. This moment the centre story would be illuminated in green, and the upper and lower in red. Presently the centre became red, and the upper and lower one turned green. All the colours of the rainbow were introduced, and varied up and down in that manner. As the procession passed up the Boulevard de Botanique the effect was marvellously fine; thence it turned into the Rue Royale, on through the Place Royale, when, descending by the Montagne de la Cour, it passed along through the Rue de la Madeleine and the Rue de la Colline into the Grande Place. Bouquets were thrown at the volunteers from several windows. The entire space in front of the Hôtel de Ville was kept for the troops. It chimed a quarter to eleven as they began to enter it. One of the bands of the Garde Civique played the 'Brabançonne' as they did

so, and 'Partant pour la Syrie' and 'God Save the Queen' followed. The Bourgmestre, accompanied by his Echevins, all in full official costume, descended and received the foreign riflemen in the court. Having passed through the lines and distributed a small memorial medal with ribbon attached, to each rifeman, the Bourgmestre received all the officers in the beautiful saloons of the Hôtel de Ville, which were brilliantly lighted with wax lights, and hung all round with the famous old Gobelin tapestry. When he had assembled all the officers around him he delivered an address to them in French, to which Colonel Loyd-Lindsay and Colonel Deherpe replied. Cheers were then given for the King of the Belgians, and others for the Queen; after which the Bourgmestre offered the *vin d'honneur*, and refreshments of a more substantial kind were also provided for the company. It was midnight before the ceremony of the distribution of the medals in the courtyard had concluded, and after one o'clock this morning when the proceedings of the reception had come to an end."

REVIEW BEFORE THE KING.

The whole force mustered at the Place du Musée before eleven o'clock on the 14th, and, having been pretty well equalised and preparations made, as the men thought, for a march to the review, they were suddenly formed into close columns of companies, and then ordered to turn right half-face. Scarcely was this accomplished when from an open window on the ground floor of a house opposite appeared a venerable clergyman, the Rev. Robert Drury, Chaplain to the British Embassy, who read one or two of the admonitory sentences with which the Church of England service is commenced, and then proceeded with the prayers following, omitting the Litany, the beliefs, and the longer prayers. After the concluding benediction, the Rev. J. Jenkins, pastor of the English church in Brussels, appeared at the window in his surplice, and delivered a very earnest and appropriate discourse, some parts of which, it is to be hoped, made a desirable impression on many of those present, who but a few minutes before had been discussing their plan for the races and other amusements which took place that day.

At the conclusion of the service, Colonel Loyd-Lindsay addressed the officers, giving them directions as to what they should do when the King made his appearance, and said he hoped that on a signal from him at the proper time the volunteers would give his Majesty a cheer more hearty and more enthusiastic than had been heard in Brussels for many a long day. An earnest 'Hear, hear' proclaimed that this injunction would be strictly obeyed. The word 'front' was then given, and the column having opened out to its previous distance, fours right were formed, and headed by the 1st Surrey band, playing its liveliest tunes, the men began their march. On the Place Royale the holiday-makers amongst the inhabitants, and the large groups of country people who had come to see the Englishmen or to take part in the national festival, were assembled in great force, and scarcely allowed room for the narrow column to proceed. One or two soldiers and police agents certainly did their best to induce the people to stand back, but their friendly exertions met with little success. It was at once remarkable how little control was attempted to be exercised over the movements of the people, and this absence of restriction (so different to the way in which a crowd is treated in England) struck most of the English who had never seen a large crowd in a Continental city before. It is true it was holiday time, and was Sunday, so that it may be reasonably supposed that the people were dressed in their best; but it is quite true that there was an utter absence of those rags, dirt, and squalor which would have been one of the painful characteristics of a London crowd under similar circumstances, and it was equally true and pleasing that the race of 'roughs' for which our great cities are unfortunately noted seemed to be unknown. The long column continued its march up the broad thoroughfare between the park and the palace, and then pursued its way down the line of Boulevards, where the word was given to halt and front. All along the route the populace were posted, and kept up a continuous though subdued cheer after the manner of a people who do not roar so lustily as Britons do. The marks of approbation were nevertheless pleasing to the volunteers, who were sensible enough that they were not shown to advantage, being with-



THE BEDSTEAD OF KING RICHARD III.



THE VENETIAN COMMISSARY OF POLICE COMMITTING THE CARE OF THE CITY TO THE CIVIC GUARD.

out arms and being clothed in such motley uniforms. The line was formed soon after twelve o'clock, and, after about half an hour's standing at ease, the clattering of hoofs and the cheers of the Belgians announced that the Court was approaching. Preceded by two or three orderly officers rode the King, his handsome figure well displayed by a rich military uniform. The Queen also accompanied his Majesty, wearing a black riding-dress and a hat of the same colour. Following their Majesties was a numerous staff, comprising most of the chief officers of the Belgian army, and amongst them was the well-known form of the worthy and popular burgomaster. The cavalcade passed along the entire line, the King constantly bowing, and holding his hat in his hand. The outriders in attendance on their Majesties were in black, the period assigned for the Court mourning not having expired. Absence of restraint on the movements of the populace was visible by the manner in which they rushed unrestrainedly after the brilliant group, and but little room was left for the cortège to return. This was the time arranged for the British cheer, which was to wake the echoes. It was not, however, a satisfactory demonstration of pulmonary power; for as every man was at attention, with eye front, the signal, whatever it was, was not perceived, and the cheering was wanting in spontaneousness, though not in earnestness, as it was kept up well down the line as their Majesties repassed, and was acknowledged by them with much affability and grace. After their Majesties and the staff had disappeared, the volunteers were wheeled to the right by sections, and were marched at wheeling distance along the Boulevard, round the park, and to the front of the palace, where the King and Queen had taken up a position. Then took place the march past—ordinarily one of the most effective displays made by volunteers. They would have shown on the occasion if the chance had been offered them; but, unluckily, the people so crowded on each flank that now and then they were so much jammed up by the crowd that the lines bulged, and men were forced to fall out in all directions. Had it not been that the cause of the mishap was evident to the people, Britain's sons would have felt a deeper chagrin at what they justly look upon as a great but unmerited failure. The column, having again gained the line of Boulevards, was fronted and dismissed, with a word of commendation spoken on authority by the officer commanding each company. The small French detachment, who took part in the march, were posted at the head of the column during the day.

SHOOTING FOR PRIZES.

In the competition for prizes the English volunteers were very successful, and several trophies of their skill were carried back with them to England. It is not necessary for us to enter here into the details of the competition, as all directly interested in the shooting and the shooters will already have made themselves masters of these. As there was no restriction as to position, the attitudes prescribed at the Hythe School of Musketry were not enforced, and, as a consequence, all possible ways of taking aim were practiced. Englishmen generally knelt or lay flat on the ground, though some shot from a fixed rest. The Belgians, French, and Swiss did nothing of the kind; they fired standing, and made excellent practice with their beautiful "arms of precision," some supporting their left elbows on their breasts, others resting their joint on their pouches slung across their waists. A few adopted the plan of poising the weapon on the finger and thumb; and, to the immense surprise of many who had not seen a rifle fired in this position before, very good practice was made, and the gun did not fly into the air or knock the holder backwards.

KING RICHARD'S BEDSTEAD.

A GOOD deal of interest has recently been excited on the subject of the bedstead on which King Richard III. slept on the night preceding the battle-day of Bosworth. There are certain traditions on the subject; but all that is positively known is that the last of the Plantagenet Kings, on the night before his last battle, slept at a hostelry called the Blue Boar, in Leicester, and, it is to be presumed, upon a bedstead (the notion of a tent on the field of battle is purely Shakespearean). A peculiar bedstead having been long associated with the aforesaid Blue Boar hostel, tradition affirms that on that identical fabric Richard slept. But that is not by any means certain. The subjoined letters on the subject will be read with interest. A correspondent, writing to the *Times*, made inquiries as to what had become of a bedstead which he had heard of at Appleby, and on which he was told King Richard had slept. In reference to this letter, Churchill Babington, B.D., Disney Professor of Archaeology at Cambridge, says:—

"I have read your correspondent's letter respecting the supposed bed of King Richard III. at Appleby with some surprise. Respecting that bed I know nothing, and never heard anything, though I resided for some years at no great distance from Appleby."

"It is not very clear from his letter whether he was aware of a different account respecting the bed of King Richard III. Very probably he was, as it occurs in several modern works known to me, and probably in others which I have not seen, to one or other of which I suspect that he alludes. In any case, the following remarks may not be uninteresting to some of your readers."

"In Nichols's 'History of Leicestershire' (vol. i., p. 380), the bed on which the King is supposed to have slept is both described and figured—Richard slept at the Blue Boar Inn (at Leicester). . . . The bedstead whereon he is supposed to have slept (on the night before the Battle of Bosworth) is still preserved, and its history is thus handed down."

"Nichols goes on to describe at large how, in 1613,* Mrs. Clark, who kept that inn, was robbed by her servant-maid and seven men, who afterwards murdered her and were executed for the crime. Mrs. Clark, it seems, had, in the reign of Elizabeth, discovered that the bed had a double bottom, the intermediate space being filled with gold. This treasure, left to her by her husband in the following reign, was the inciting cause of the robbery and murder. A very curious extract from Sir R. Twysden's commonplace books about this may be seen in *Notes and Queries* for 1857, page 102. Nichols proceeds to add that it came afterwards into the hands of Mr. Alderman Drake. To cut matters short, after the death of my father, the Rev. Matthew Drake Babington, Rural Dean of Ackley, in Leicestershire, in 1851, it came into my hands. It was examined by several antiquaries—among the rest by my learned friend Mr. M. H. Bloxam of Rugby. He was decidedly of opinion that the bed—a most beautiful piece of work—was of the age of Elizabeth. Although few people know the bed better than I do, as I have many a time struck my head against its projecting carved work, when first waking in the morning, yet it belongs to a class of antiquities about which I do not feel disposed to deliver an opinion *ex cathedra*. Mr. James Thompson (*Notes and Queries* for 1857, p. 154) speaks with prudent doubtfulness. After showing from Coryat's *Crudities* that the traditional bed of Richard III. was exhibited among the 'Penny sights of the reign of James I.' in 1611, he goes on to say, 'The question yet remains doubtful whether the bedstead on which Richard III. slept was ever exhibited, and also whether he ever concealed gold in any bedstead. That he lodged in the Blue Boar, which inn was taken down about twenty years ago, I think is sufficiently established; but beyond this fact it does not appear to me safe to go on this head in the way of historical affirmation.' The external evidence in favour of its genuineness is decidedly strong, and with regard to the internal evidence, the representation of the Holy Sepulchre in one of its compartments may be thought by some to savour of the reign of Richard III. rather than of Elizabeth. Those who consider the style of carving to be manifestly of the sixteenth, and not of the fifteenth, century, can, of course, enjoy their opinion, which may very probably be correct. It is certainly very precious, and I must confess that I incline to it. The bed, I may say, in conclusion, is now in the possession of Mr. W. P. Herrick, of Beaumanor Park. It was with regret that I parted with it, having then no house in which to keep so large a

* It seems that the murder was committed in 1605, not 1613; and one woman burnt, and only one man hanged for the offence.—*Notes and Queries* for 1877, p. 154.

piece of furniture; but the regret was much diminished by knowing that it would be placed in such excellent hands as those of my friend, Mr. Herrick."

Mr. Henry Shaw, F.S.A., of 103, Southampton-row, also in a letter to the *Times*, thus writes:—

"I had supposed the tradition of the old bedstead formerly preserved at the Blue Boar Inn at Leicester having been the one on which Richard III. slept the night before the Battle of Bosworth had been long since set at rest to the satisfaction of those who possessed only a moderate acquaintance with the archaeology of architecture, as every genuine example of ancient carving carries its own chronology within a short period, in the style of its design and the character of its execution. When I published my 'Specimens of Ancient Furniture,' in the year 1836, I made most diligent search for examples of an ancient date, and was surprised to find how few remained belonging to an earlier time than the beginning of the sixteenth century. The oldest bed I met with then, or have heard of since, was of the time of Henry VIII., and belonged to a clergyman in the neighbourhood of Blackburn, who had bought it out of an old manor-house. The posts and back are most elaborately carved in the true style of Gothic art, but unfortunately the cornice had disappeared."

"If, however, real specimens of ancient furniture are wanting, ivory carvings, stained glass, and more especially illuminated MSS., supply us with abundance of examples to show the changes of fashion in these articles during the Middle Ages."

"In the earlier times beds were almost invariably mere couches. As luxury advanced they were enlarged; the counterpanes were formed of the richest materials, gorgeously embroidered with the arms and badges of the owners, and, from their great cost, bequeathed to their descendants from one generation to another. These beds were usually surmounted with testers or canopies of the richest coloured silks, edged with party-coloured fringes, and suspended from the rafters of the rooms by silken cords. The head of the bed was usually of oak richly carved in panels. Side curtains appear, but foot-posts are very rarely seen."

"The modern four-poster came into general use in the time of Elizabeth, when these features frequently assumed enormous proportions, and were almost invariably covered with the most elaborate carvings. As these embellishments are in the Renaissance style—said to have been introduced into this country by Holbein—they could not appear on a bedstead of the time of Richard III. The one removed from the Blue Boar Inn is an ordinary example of the Elizabethan type, of which many specimens still remain; one of the most beautiful, and certainly the most interesting, being the 'Great Bed at Ware,' mentioned by Shakspeare in his 'Twelfth Night.'

THE ITALIAN CIVIC GUARD IN VENICE.

VENICE was made over to her High Sheriff on the 18th ult., and we have already recorded the particulars of the cession of the ancient city. Of the manner in which the people have conducted themselves under such exciting circumstances it is impossible to speak too highly. They cheered General Alemann, the Austrian Governor, on his departure; and, although there may have been a touch of bitterness in their demonstration, they cheered the Austrian detachment employed in dismounting and embarking the guns from the fortresses of the Tedeschi.

The last bands of German soldiers who, by a blundering policy, had been permitted to linger in the barracks and the public buildings, and whose continued presence was a source of legitimate irritation to the Venetians, packed up their needments and stole away during the night of the 16th.

It was a great astonishment, a vast relief, to walk forth on to the Piazzetta in the bright October sun, and find that there were no more Croats under the arcade of the Palazzo Ducale. The Canallata, that grim range of dungeon bars, which screened the colonnade, and behind which the Austrian drums and the Austrian banner, the hated *Schwarz-gelb*, used to rest; behind which the Austrian bayonets used to be piled; behind which the Austrian soldiers used to squat on their benches, puffing at their meerschaums, and contemplating the Imperiale e Reale Zecca opposite with a stale and accustomed look; behind which, in fine, were ranged those six-pounders whose trail was so terrific, and which were to blow the Venetians into peelings of onions if they dared to misbehave themselves—the Canallata, those most obnoxious of iron railings, were gone. They had been torn up bodily by a suddenly enfranchised people. Gondoliers, Garibaldini, beggars even, had lent a hand to wrench those dungeon bars from their sockets. Even strangers and chance visitors, yielding to an impulse of enthusiasm, had rushed forward to help unroot the ugly signs of Austrian rule.

After the grand ceremony of the 18th, the entire aspect of Venice changed. The Italians were there—Italian people, Italian sailors, Italian soldiers, Italian volunteers, Italian organ-grinders, even, playing the Garibaldian hymn in the streets. Gone for ever were the Austrian sentries from before the Zecca and the Royal Palace. Gone were the detestable patrols, whose bayonets were continually (morally speaking) prying over your shoulders or poking into your loins. There were no more grey-coated, bandy-legged Croats, sulking or grinning behind the hideous bars of the Canallata, like hyenas in their dens. That aggressive standard of black and yellow was furled for ever. Those two murderous field-pieces had ceased to point menacingly across the Piazzetta. They had been unlimbered for good, and packed, with other rubbishing marine stores, on board an Austrian Lloyd's steam-boat bound for Trieste. The two monstrous gilt eagles that used to flap their domineering wings from twin pedestals in the palace garden had taken away their four ugly heads to other eyries. The Austrian military band had uttered their last toot, and migrated to more congenial orchestras. There were no more white-jerkined or sky-blue-coated Tedeschi to loll over the tables at Quadri's or promenade up and down the Piazza with their much bedizened Frauen, eyeing the Venetians, half with a scowl of hatred, half with a sneer of supercilious contempt. There were no more skulking gendarmes, with murderous-looking cutlasses stuck in their rusty belts, like those of the bravi in the *Promessi Sposi*. In their place were the countrymen of the Venetians, and the culminating ceremony of the day was that represented in our Engraving, when the Italian Civic Guard came out for the first time armed and ready to occupy the posts that had been assigned to them by the commissioners of police in the various districts.

THE COLONY OF VICTORIA has come into the London market for a "public loan" of £850,000, in six per cent debentures, redeemable on Jan. 1, 1891.

THE AMERICAN COTTON CROP.—Such estimates of the cotton crop of the United States in 1866 as are made upon any apparent basis of authority will, no doubt, be of value abroad. The agricultural department of our Government has just issued an estimate founded upon the personal observation of a corps of agents throughout the South. This department, while not considered thoroughly reliable by Americans, still has some weight attached to it from the fact that it is the official superintendent of American agricultural affairs. The commissioner prefaches his estimate by stating that it is too early yet to predict the result of the year's efforts with certainty, as insect enemies may yet affect the result, and the corps of observers is not sufficiently complete to warrant a reliable estimate of the amount of cotton. He, however, takes the result of their estimates as a basis for estimates of the crop in the several States. The statements are in tenths, not of an average annual crop, but of the large crop of 1859, reported in the census of 1860. Upon this basis he makes the following estimate for the cotton-growing States:—

State.	Proportion of Crop of 1859.	Bales.
Alabama ..	Three tenths	296,986
Arkansas ..	Four tenths	146,957
Florida ..	Three and one-eighth tenths ..	21,717
Georgia ..	Two and one-quarter tenths ..	175,460
Louisiana ..	Three and three-quarter tenths ..	281,651
Mississippi ..	Two and one-half tenths ..	300,626
North Carolina ..	Five tenths	72,757
South Carolina ..	Two tenths	70,282
Tennessee ..	Ten tenths	296,464
Texas ..	Four tenths	172,585
Total crop		1,835,485

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MR. MAPLESON is once more about to test the attractiveness of a brief opera season in the autumn. Considering how great the musical desititution of the metropolis has been of late—relieved, it is true, by the excellent concerts of Mr. Alfred Mellon—it is quite possible that a series of operatic performances at Her Majesty's Theatre may have charms for a very large number of disconsolate amateurs. Mr. H. Jarrett is reported to have surpassed himself in his endeavours to secure an efficient troupe; and the fact of Signor Morini having been engaged in the part of *Faust* is a proof of the success that has attended his efforts. Signor Morini was the original representative of the hero in M. Gounod's most celebrated opera—his one celebrated opera, indeed; which, however, has nothing to do with the fact that *"Mireille"* is, in its way, a most charming, characteristic, and poetical work. Signor Morini sang the part of *Faust* for many weeks in succession at the Théâtre Lyrique in Paris, and has recently been performing in operas of various kinds in the English "provinces." To-night (Saturday) he is to appear in the character which Mr. Mapleson's advertisements have (of late) especially associated with his name; and the London public will have an opportunity of ratifying, or leaving unratified, the not very well known verdict of the Parisian public. The character of Margaret will be intrusted, as usual at Her Majesty's Theatre, to Mlle. Titiens; that of Valentine to Mr. Santley.

Those who think that public singers have but light work to go through should now be reminded that the three vocalists we have just named have all been performing, day by day, at the Norwich Festival, and that Mlle. Titiens and Mr. Santley had to sing as recently as Friday morning in "The Messiah." This Norwich Festival has been the great musical event of the week, though hitherto, in spite of the long accounts on the subject forwarded to the morning newspapers, it is difficult to understand what has really been produced. A very trustworthy correspondent informs us that up to Tuesday evening the only new work produced was Mr. Sullivan's concert overture, entitled "In Memoriam." Mr. Benedict's cantata, entitled "St. Cecilia"—the libretto by Mr. Chorley, one of our least successful poets—was to be given on Thursday morning. In the meanwhile the Prince and Princess of Wales had visited Norwich and attended a performance of Mr. Costa's "Naaman," preceded by one of Spohr's anthems, on Wednesday morning; while on Wednesday evening several novelties, including a vocal quartet by Signor Randegger and a song by Mr. George Osborne, were produced.

To return to London, the Monday Popular Concerts, as we believe, we have already mentioned, are to be recommenced on the 5th inst.

MANSION HOUSE CHOLERA RELIEF COMMITTEE.

ON Monday this committee, who have sat daily for the greater part of the last three months, and latterly twice or thrice a week, held their final meeting at the Mansion House, the emergency which called them into existence having now, as there is good reason to hope, passed away.

In the unavoidable absence from indisposition of the Lord Mayor (Alderman Phillips), Sir Mordaunt Wells occupied the chair on the occasion.

An official report under the hand of the Lord Mayor, was presented and read to the meeting.

It traced the operations of the committee from its first constitution when the cholera broke out in August last. At that time it was directly recognised by the committee that the great want in those districts where cholera prevailed was local organisation to grapple with the disease. They laid down from the first the principle that all grants they might make from their fund should be administered, as far as possible, through local committees. To a strict observance of this rule they attribute much of the success which has attended the administration of the fund. To ninety-two local committees and to hospitals and dispensaries 164 grants were made, amounting in all to £9121 9s. These grants were generally well administered. To meet the claims of orphans the committee voted a sum of £6570. A conference was brought about with the Metropolitan Relief Association, who had resolved also to set apart £5000 for the relief of orphans. The two committees divided the 1260 orphans on their lists between them. Since that time others were added, and 710 orphans have been relieved out of the Mansion House fund. 277 widows were assisted, at a cost of £541, and £2000 were set apart for convalescents. The committee received returns from fifty-six local committees, and from fourteen hospitals and dispensaries. These do not, however, include all cases. There were returned as attacked with cholera 10,424, with diarrhoea 68,975; of these 4396 died of cholera, and 646 of diarrhoea. The funds placed at the disposal of the committee and of the Metropolitan Relief Association amounted to nearly £40,000; to which if we add the cholera fund of the London Hospital, amounting to many thousands, and the many contributions that flowed through other channels, it is below the mark to say that £70,000 have been contributed to relieve the sufferers from this calamity.

The report was unanimously adopted; and then, on the motion of Sir Mordaunt Wells, seconded by Mr. Tite, M.P., a resolution was passed without a dissentient voice to the effect that the members of the committee availed themselves of that opportunity of expressing to their president, the Lord Mayor, their cordial thanks for the great kindness and consideration they had on all occasions experienced during the prolonged sitting of the committee at the Mansion House.

Dr. Andrew Clark said, next to the Lord Mayor, the successful operations of the committee were due in an eminent degree to the able and untiring services of Sir Mordaunt Wells; and he ventured to testify, on behalf of the committee, the sense of gratitude he knew they entertained for those services, and especially for the unwearied devotion Sir Mordaunt had shown in the case of the orphans, which had been to him a labour of love.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Wm. Rogers, and carried with acclamation.

A similar compliment having been paid, on the motion of Alderman Cotton, to the honorary auditors, Mr. Chas. Hutton, Mr. W. H. Ripley, and Mr. Wm. Needham, for their services, the meeting separated.

THE CHOLERA IN AUSTRIA.—According to official returns more than 200,000 persons have had the cholera in Austria since the beginning of the month of July, and about one half of them have died. In Vienna 3242 persons have been carried off by the cholera, which during the last three or four days has become less violent. Forty-nine thousand persons have been attacked by the cholera in Hungary, and 21,556 of them have died. The malady seems to have been more prevalent in Moravia than elsewhere, for on the 15th inst. there had been 67,192 cases, 27,024 of which had proved fatal.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Registrar General's weekly return shows 1394 deaths in London during last week, being 123 over the average. The excess is set down partly to the account of bronchitis. During the week there were 112 deaths from cholera and 32 from diarrhoea, the two together being 55 lower than during last week, which was just 55 below the week before. The decrease, which is very satisfactory, would have been even greater but for the 39 deaths from malignant cholera at Woolwich and Plumstead. But the metropolis was the fourth among the ten great towns of the kingdom in point of health, Bristol being best, and Dublin and Newcastle worst. On Monday there was no death registered from cholera in the west; only one in the north, properly belonging to the centre, which had also one; one in the east, and twelve in the south, the whole of these being in Greenwich, Woolwich, Charlton, and Plumstead.

SUSPECTED POISONING.—Advices from Dresden state that the public of that city is much occupied with an affair which calls to mind that of Dr. de la Pommery in Paris. An advocate named Muller has been arrested there accused of a crime analogous to that which conducted the French doctor to the scaffold. In the month of June last M. Muller lost his young wife (she was only twenty-six), and the journals were filled with accounts of the grief of the unhappy husband. But it appears that he soon consoled himself, having had the idea of insuring her life, when in excellent health, for 68,000f. The directors of the assurance company were not, however, touched with the grief of M. Muller, but demanded the examination and autopsy of the body. The chemist Sennelschein, charged with the examination, has discovered the presence of a vegetable poison, but the name of which he has not yet stated. That result has appeared sufficient to the authorities to warrant M. Muller's arrest.

LAW AND CRIME.

SINCE the famous case of "Elizabeth Canning," which created the most intense interest in the last century, there has, perhaps, been no criminal cause which has exhibited such a direct and irreconcileable conflict of evidence as that arising from a charge supported by the evidence of two policemen, against two lads who were accused of an attempt at burglary. It may be remembered that the prisoners were committed for trial by Mr. Mansfield, who refused to hear any evidence for the defence. Mr. Mansfield, no doubt, acted upon the principle that, as a magistrate, he had only to consider whether a *prima facie* case for the prosecution could be made out and supported, and that it was not for him to try a criminal who offered to defend himself by disproving the evidence against him. There is, perhaps, more of strict adherence to legal form in this course than appears to have suggested itself to many who have commented upon it. But, at the same time, it is a strong point in favour of a prisoner when he volunteers to enter upon his defence before a magistrate. Practised criminals, usually, in set phrase, "reserve their defence." Upon this point the Recorder has expressed an opinion which will probably be remembered and acted upon in future. The learned gentleman said, although he should be sorry to differ from an opinion expressed by another Judge, still he thought that, where a genuine defence was set up, it would have a far greater effect if the witnesses were called and made their statements to the magistrate, and there would then be no ground for complaint on the part of the prosecution that the evidence of the witnesses came upon them by surprise. In support of the charge of perjury against one of the two policemen who had arrested the two lads, numerous witnesses appeared to testify that the constables had taken their prisoners by a different route to that sworn to by them; that they had previously been drinking at a public-house; that they had been seen to alight from a hansom cab; that the lads (apart from certain loose habits not very uncommon among youths of a low class) were of good character; that they were arrested in the open street; and that, according to circumstantial evidence, no burglary had been attempted. On the other side, the landlord and two barmaids of the public-house named swore that the policemen had not been there on the night in question; several constables and other witnesses deposed to having met them with their prisoners on the road as taken, according to their own showing; and that the constables were not near the street where the prosecutors stated they were arrested, having, in fact, no business whatever to be there. One singular circumstance remained without contradiction—viz., that the police gave no intimation whatever, for hours after the arrest, to the inmates of the house at which the burglary was alleged to have been attempted. This fact was duly commented upon by the Recorder. The jury, in the face of this conflicting evidence, returned a verdict of "Not Guilty" upon the case before them. Mr. Sleigh, for the prosecution, applied for a postponement of the trial of the second policeman, pending certain inquiries. It is announced that these have since been made, and that the indictment will be proceeded upon. The verdict in the first case by no means settles the question of the guilt of the prosecutors or of the prisoner. The jury could scarcely, in the face of such grave doubts as those suggested by the evidence for the defence, have given any other verdict. Now that each side knows the case of the other and has opportunity of inquiring into the antecedents and credibility of the several witnesses, a more satisfactory result may reasonably be expected upon the next trial. Should this prove adverse to the prisoner, how very fortunate the first selected may think himself in his escape! But if otherwise, and the policeman's evidence be incontrovertibly corroborated, how extremely lucky must be the prosecutors who have already been discharged upon the indictment for attempted burglary! In this case, however, they will, in turn, be liable to stand their trial for perjury, and re-indict their prosecutors upon the evidence thus given. So that this legal see-saw may be protracted almost indefinitely.

For a long time past, up to last week, we have been pointing out the absurdity and uselessness of the deliberations of Coroners' juries when directed to distinguishing between murder and manslaughter, or between suicide and self-destruction under the influence of madness. During the last week one Coroner's jury has returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity" in the case of a poor fellow who was afflicted with a painful and incurable disease, and who killed himself. There was no proof of insanity whatever, and there was no attempt on the part of anyone to offer evidence upon the point. The man lived in unbearable pain, and therefore a jury takes for granted that he must have been mad to prefer death to intolerable life. How can they tell? What experience have they had in continuous torture, unfitting the patient for the ordinary business, let alone the enjoyments, of life? Let it be well understood that we do not in any way attempt to justify or extenuate suicide under any circumstances whatever. But what we complain of is that this Coroner's jury, who cannot enter upon, far less be competent to decide, the question at issue, venture to settle at once another, beside it altogether, as to the sanity of the suicide. Is not this absurd? But in regard to Coroners' juries drawing distinctions between murder and manslaughter, the manner in which they constantly not only decide upon what they are not required to recognise, but the way in which, while doing so, they almost invariably go wrong, falls within the domain of the ridiculous; for it does but little harm. Last week we commented upon one or two striking cases of this kind. Here is another. A labourer was in the habit of maltreating his wife, whom he had beaten into a low, weakly, and dangerous condition. When he struck her on one occasion recently the poor woman, gaspingly, begged him not to strike her again "on the left side, as that would kill her." The villain said that was what he meant to do. A day or two after he picked a quarrel with her, and administered repeated blows upon the left side. So he killed her. A Coroner's jury returned a verdict of manslaughter. The Coroner administered a mild reproof to the jury, while at the same time pointing out the utter absurdity of their silly verdict, by telling them that this would not prevent an indictment being preferred against the prisoner on a charge of wilful murder.

POLICE.

LONDON OMNIBUSES, A.D. 1866.—Mrs. Ann Savage, of Princes-mews, Princes-street, Stamford-street, was summoned before Alderman Cotton by Inspector Jecks for, on the 24th of September last, unlawfully letting for hire an omnibus numbered 6226 after notice had been given to her in writing by the Commissioner of Police that the said carriage was not in a fit and proper condition for public use.

Charles Albert Jecks said he was inspector of public carriages. The defendant's omnibus plied between the Metropolitan Railway and the Elephant and Castle. On July 24 it was out of repair. The tire of the off wheel was loose, the steps approaching to the roof were loose and unsafe, the front off-side seat was very loose and unsafe, and the windows were out of repair—they would let in the rain; and the cushions were ragged, wet, and very dirty. Notice of the condition of the omnibus was served upon the defendant on July 25, but nothing had been done to the omnibus since.

Alderman Cotton said, from that evidence it was clear that the omnibus was in an unfit condition for use; and he should fine the defendant 40s. and costs.

Another summons was then heard against the same defendant, with regard to the omnibus No. 6907.

After hearing the evidence,

Alderman Cotton said, it appeared to him a system was carried on which might be very economical to the defendant, but was very dangerous to the public. This was a very bad case, and he should fine her £5 and costs. The fines were paid.

Joseph Covington, of 42, Mitre-street, Lambeth, was summoned by Inspector Jecks for a similar offence.

The charge was proved, but the defendant said there were hundreds worse than his in London.

Alderman Cotton said, if that were so, more summonses ought to be taken out against the owners. He fined the defendant 40s. and costs, which were paid.

DREADFUL DOINGS AT A MUSIC-HALL!—DISINTERESTED PROSECUTION AND HEAVY FINE!—Mr. Robert Meacock, of the Metropolitan Music-hall, Edgware-road, appeared to answer a summons charging him "that he did unlawfully have or keep a certain house, called the Metropolitan Music-hall, for the public performance of stage plays without authority, by virtue of letters patent from the Lord Chamberlain of her Majesty's household, or her Majesty's justices of the peace for the county in which the said music-hall is situate, the same house or place not being a booth or show exempted from the operation of the statue in that behalf," contrary to the Act made for regulating theatres.

Mr. Montague Williams (instructed by Mr. W. S. Webster, solicitor for the London and provincial managers) conducted the prosecution. Mr. F. H. Lewis appeared for the defence. The court was crowded by professional gentlemen to hear the case.

Mr. Williams said he was happy to inform the magistrate that his time would not be occupied in investigating this case. In order, however, to show his Worship the nature of the case, he would briefly state the cause of complaint. A short time ago an announcement appeared in the daily papers that a grand ballet spectacle entitled "Valentine and Orson" would be produced at the Metropolitan Music-hall. The learned counsel read the programme, and said the magistrate would there see that it was cut up into parts and pieces, and placed as a regular stage play. It appeared to those for whom he appeared, as it did also to him, that the Act of Parliament was being infringed, and it was imperative that steps should be taken to put a stop to it. In the body of the hall keys of programmes of the play were sold. There could be no doubt that this was taken from Cumberland's acting edition of the play of "Valentine and Orson." To remove any doubt they might have had, they had been to see the piece, and checked it off word by word. At the bottom of this bill there was an announcement that a "screaming farce" would be produced. The managers for whom he appeared had deemed it necessary for the protection of their interests that this prosecution should be taken. Propositions had, however, been made to the defendant, which he had wisely acceded to. By these he had agreed to curtail and cut out those portions of the piece that were objectionable. He had also submitted to a penalty being imposed upon him and to pay the costs.

Mr. Lewis said he had advised his client to accept the proposition. He had pointed out to him that he was infringing the law.

Mr. Tyrwhitt made an order for the defendant to pay a penalty of 40s. and costs.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

THE Market for Home Stocks has been in a very inactive state, and the quotations have had a drooping tendency, although the supply of stock in the hands of the jobbers is only moderate, and although the supply of money on offer is very large. Consols, for Money have been 80½d.; Ditto, for the new Account, 80½d.; Reduced and New Three per Cent., 80½d.; Consols, for Bills, to 4s. prem.; Bank Stock 245 to 247.

The dealings in Indian Securities have been on a very moderate scale. India Stock, 211 to 213; Ditto Five per Cent., 101 to 104; India Paper, 101½ to 102 and 107 to 108; India Bonds, 18s. to 25s. per cent.

The demand for accommodation has been very moderate, at the annexed rates for the best commercial paper:

	Per cent.
Thirty days'	32 4
Sixty days'	32 4
Three months'	32 4
Four months'	32 4
Six months'	32 4

A full average quantity of gold has been sent into the Bank, but several parcels have been withdrawn for shipment to Egypt. Mexican dollars have sold at 50½d. per oz. Bar silver is worth 60d. per oz.

Foreign Securities have been tolerably firm, chiefly, however, for a regular Mexican, Turkish, and Italian descriptions, in the value of which an improvement has taken place. Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents have been done at 61½; Ditto Five per Cent., 1865, 68d.; Dubian Seven per Cent., 63; Egyptian Seven per Cent., 1861, Small, 21; Ditto, Debentures, 81; Greek Five per Cent., 14; Mexican Three per Cent., 16; Ditto, 1864, 11½; Portuguese Three per Cent., 13; Russian Five per Cent., 1822, 47½; Ditto, 1862, 91½; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cent., 57½; Ditto Three per Cent., 56½; Spain, 79½; Ditto, 1860, 56½; Venezuela Six per Cent., 1862, 29; Ditto, 1864, 30½; Dutch One-and-a-Half per Cent., 56½; and Italian Four per Cent., 1861, 56½.

Bank Shares, with the exception of those of old established undertakings, have commanded very little attention. Australasian have realised 65 div.; Bank of New Zealand, 18; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 17½ div.; City, 15½; Consolidated, 5; Imperial Ottoman, 9; Land Mortgage of India, 2½; London and County, 62; London Joint-stock, 4½; London and South African, 13½; London and Westminster, 93½; and Union of London, 43.

American Securities have ruled quiet. United States 5-30 Bonds have realised 65½; Atlantic and Great Western Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, 41; Erie Railway Shares, 50½; and Illinois Central, 77.

The Miscellaneous Market has been rather inactive—Anglo-American Telegraph, 14½; Atlantic Telegraph, 51; Ditch, Eight per Cent., 87½; British and Colonial, 83; City of Moscow, 10½; Credit Foncier and Mobiler of England, 34; Ebbu Vale, 93½; Egyptian Steam and Trading, 41; General Credit, 1; General Steam, 26; Hudson's Bay, 17; Imperial Land Company, 22; International Land Credit, 21; London Financial, 101; London General Omnibus, 34; London and Provincial Marine, 21; Ocean Marine, 2½; Oriental Gas, 5½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 63½; Royal Mail Steam, 106; Société Financière d'Egypte, 32; Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance, 9; Imperial Gas, 74½ div.; London, 61 div.; Westmister Chartered, 61½; Chelsea Waterworks, 9; Eagle Insurance, 6½; Atlas, 9; Guardian, 4½; Liverpool and Globe, 20; North British and Guardian, 16.

The Railway Share Market is flat, and prices are lower. Metropolitan Stock fell 1½ per cent on Monday, but since then the market for that description of stock has been firmer.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Only moderate supplies of English wheat have been on sale this week, notwithstanding the demand for all kinds of grain at about stationary prices. In foreign wheat the transactions have been on a limited scale, at late quotations. Floating cargoes of grain have been firm in price. Fine barley has ruled the turn higher; but grinding and dissolving sorts have commanded very little attention. The sale for malt has been steady, on former terms. Good, sound oats have advanced 6½ per quarter. Heated parcels have met a slow sale. Beans and peas have been unaltered in value. The flour trade has been quiet.

LEATHER.—Sheep, 21s. to 67s.; barley, 32s. to 52s.; malt, 60s. to 78s.; oats, 21s. to 34s.; rye, 30s. to 35s.; beans, 38s. to 47s.; peas, 35s. to 44s. per quarter; flour, 40s. to 52s. per cwt. 200 lb.

CATTLE.—Only limited supplies of stock have been on offer, and the trade, generally, has been firm on higher terms—Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 1d.; lamb, 3s. 2d. per lb., to sink the offal.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—The trade has been moderately active, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; veal, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 2d.; pork, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 4d. per lb. by the carcass.

TEA.—The market is steady, at about last week's quotations.

SUGAR.—The demand for both raw and refined goods is inactive, yet prices are supported. The stock amounts to 189,425 tons, against 187,975 tons at this time last year.

COFFEE.—We have no change to notice in prices. The market, however, may be steady. Stock, 13,475 tons, against 12,415 tons in 1865.

RICE.—Prices have given way 3d. to 6d. per cwt., with an inactive demand. Stock, 22,745 tons, against 26,079 tons last year.

PROVISIONS.—The sale for butter is quiet, at about stationary prices. Bacon is a slow sale, at from 62s. to 65s. per cwt. for the best Waterford sizable. Hams move off steadily, at full quotations; but most other provisions are a dull inquiry.

TALLOW.—P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 4s. 3d. per cwt. The stock amounts to 44,426 casks, against 46,805 casks in 1865.

OILS.—Linseed oil is freely offered at 18s. 6d.; rape, 13s. 10d. to 14s. 10d.; olive, 15s. to 16s.; coconut, 19s. to 26d.; and fine palm, 21s. American turpentine, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; and French, 4s. 6d.

SPIRITS.—There is only a moderate business doing in rum, on former terms. Brandy and grappa spirit rule at stationary prices.

HAY AND STRAW.—Hay rule at 18s. to 21s. per cwt. clover, 14s. to 15s.; straw, 21s. to 22s. per cwt.

HOPS.—The demand for hops has become less active, yet prices are well supported. New qualities are selling at from 19s. to 22s. per cwt.

WOOL.—There is only a moderate inquiry for all kinds, at late rates.

POTATOES.—The supplies are tolerably good, and the demand is steady, at from 6d. to 10s. per ton.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26.

BANKRUPTS.—F. F. ALLEN, Brixton-road, commission merchant, F. BARTON, Twickenham, dealer in tins, H. EDE, Hackney-wick, solicitor, S. CHURCHILL, Hackney-wick, clerk, A. CHAPFERS, Lincoln's-inn-fields, attorney, J. W. ELLIOTT, Regent's Park-road, builder, S. GLASER, Spitalfields—J. HILL, Islington, clerks, H. HAYMANN, Finsbury-circus, general merchant, F. J. LEAFLER, Newgate-street, dealer in wine, J. LINDNER, Brixton-road, dealer in wine, J. MEIER, Bow, W. H. YOUNG, Bishopsgate-street, W. H. SAWYER, Borough, tailor, D. DOBELL, New-cross, grocer, N. HENRIQUEZ, City, merchant, E. G. PALMER, Leadenhall-street, insurance agent, W. SPRAGG, Croydon, smith, P. BURTON, Kensington, stationer, R. WATKINS, Islington, grocer, R. W. BUTLER, Paddington, smith, H. G. MITCHELL, East Greenwich, W. HAWKINS, Walworth, carpenter, B. HARRONSMITH, Woolwich, upholsterer, W. PLATT, Strand, working jeweller, G. BEER, Tadworth, farmer, H. MOODY, Pinimoo, secretary of the Military and Yeomanry Club, J. DAY, Beaconsfield-heath, market gardener, A. FONTANA, Tipton, sculptor, H. T. WALTON, newton-street, looking-glass manufacturer, J. F. BACON, Captain in the 95th Regiment, G. MEAGER, Croydon, baker, W. HOWELLS, Oxford, wheelwright, R. COOPER, Colchester, licensed victualler, P. J. CONNELL, Winslow, butcher, S. C. ECKER, Hackney-road, D. COLLINS, Paddington, J. T. TILLEY, Old Kent-road, W. FLINT, Tottenham-court-road, beerhouse-keeper, R. W. GRIFFITHS, Gray's inn, surveyor, C. S. SLAN, Old Broad-street, general merchant, A. ANDREWS, Northampton, leather-seller, T. J. MARSHALL, Bishopsgate Without, engineer, F. J. WALKER, Southwark, F. OLTS, Birmingham, tube manufacturer, H. HUMPHREYS, jun., Birmingham, fishmonger, W. W. WHITFIELD, Birmingham, M. GREGORY, Stourport, rope manufacturer, W. GREGG, jun., Birmingham, provision-dealer, C. BULLOCK, Longton, china manufacturer, G. E. BULTERTON, Shifnal, farmer, J. CARRICKS, Newcastle-on-Tyne, R. BENNETT, Yeovil, beerhouse-keeper, J. 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